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PNC vote not enough for withdrawal



President Bill Clinton congratulates Moshe Matbabo, 11, of Kfar Saya, who lit the Hanukka candle last night at a ceremony held at Beit Hanassi. (Kevin Unger)

Netanyahu: Palestinians violating other parts of Wye

By DANNA HARMAN, BEN LYNFIELD, and HILLEL KUTTLER

The government will not carry out the next redeployment on schedule, even if President Bill Clinton succeeds in getting the Palestinian National Council to vote today against those sections of the Palestinian Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

Clinton also said at his news conference yesterday that he intends to submit to Congress a supplemental request for $1.2 billion to meet Israel's security needs related to implementing the Wye agreement.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu indicated at the news conference that the withdrawal – scheduled for Friday – would not take place on time, even if there is a vote today, because the Palestinians continue to violate the agreement.

It is expected that about half the PNC members will show up for today's meeting in Gaza and that they, along with the other Palestinian groups present, will raise their hands in a vote to reaffirm the nullification of the Covenant sections.

US negotiators have already worked out the voting procedure with the Palestinians, said an Israeli official, and a summit meeting among the three sides at Erez is scheduled. However, Israel's ambassador to the US Zalman Shoval said last night that even with a satisfactory outcome in the PNC, a summit is still not certain, since Israel is demanding "other things that I will not specify."

PM urges Pollard's release, Page 2
Not all Palestinians welcome Clinton, Page 3
Hillary views 'work of peace', Page 4
Daley urges business sector to 'push peace', Page 17

If the PNC members vote in "sufficient numbers to annul the infamous Palestinian charter" said Netanyahu yesterday, that would be seen as a "welcome development" – but not enough.

It had not yet been determined whether Clinton would convene a meeting with Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat today. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told reporters yesterday.

But she emphasized that the Americans desire to "restore the level of communication" between the two.

Netanyahu, repeating his claim that the PA has not lived up to any of its commitments at Wye, said that unless the series of conditions set by the cabinet last week, and based on promises made at Wye, are met by the PA, there will be no further withdrawals.

According to the agreement, Israel is to transfer 5 percent of Area C (full Israeli control) to Area B (joint control) by Friday.

The conditions include an "official and unequivocal" renunciation by Arafat of the plan to unilaterally declare statehood on May 4 1999; an end to incitement and violence "at once... fully and permanently"; the restoration of security cooperation: and "serious moves" by the PA to confiscate the illegal weapons and reduce the size of its armed forces.

"I think no one can seriously expect Israel to hand over another inch of territory until such unambiguous corrections are made," said Netanyahu.

See VOTE, Page 21

Clinton: I won't resign

By HILLEL KUTTLER

"I have no intention of resigning; it's never crossed my mind," President Bill Clinton said yesterday about the impeachment threat hanging over his presidency.

In a Jerusalem press conference with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu that was dominated by the matter, Clinton also criticized the House Republican leadership for placing "undue pressure" on party members to vote for impeachment on Thursday, rather than letting a legislator "vote his or her conscience based on the Constitution and the law."

"I don't know what's going to happen. That's up to them. It's out of my hands," Clinton said.

Speaking on CBS television, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde called for Clinton to resign.

Clinton said he was not surprised by the vote, which he considered "foreordained."

The president said in his appearance with Netanyahu that he would not lobby representatives to vote against impeachment in Thursday's full House vote, saying that to do so would be "inappropriate."

Impeachment meets peace process, Page 2

Admitting that he committed perjury in his deposition in the Paula Jones case is not an option, Clinton said, because "I did not commit perjury."

Republicans have sought such an admission in recent months.

National security adviser Sandy Berger told reporters later yesterday that Clinton was not upset by the resignation questions at the press conference, because "the president expects questions of that sort at this stage."

Clinton met yesterday morning with a 13-member congressional delegation that is also visiting here. The 20-minute session dealt solely with the peace process, and Clinton didn't say "a word" about the impeachment issue, nor did he lobby members to oppose the motion, said Jon Fox, a Republican from Pennsylvania.

Fox, who leaves office in January after losing his seat in November's election, refused to reveal his intention when the vote comes to the House floor, but said he would make an announcement soon.

Avineri: Israel-Palestinian peace key to US Gulf policy

ANALYSIS
By DAVID RUDGE

The US has a strategic interest in resolving the Israel-Palestinian conflict, according to former Foreign Ministry director-general Shlomo Avineri.

"A resolution of the present crisis between Israel and the Palestinians would greatly enhance America's ability to use force against Iraq if required," said Avineri, professor of political science at the Hebrew University.

"In a few days President [Bill] Clinton might have to take a very difficult decision over whether or not to strike at Iraq because of non-compliance with UN resolutions.

"A successful conclusion of his visit to the region would enable him to receive the tacit understanding, if not open support, of at least the moderate Arab states for any decision to use force to bring Iraq into line."

Avineri said it is necessary to look at the bigger picture.

"The strategic issue for Israel is not simply the wording and procedure of a problematic Palestinian National Council, but will it help President Clinton to make a decision, if necessary, to use force against Iraq. In a very strange way it is in our hands," he said.

Clinton's main objective, he said, is to cement the Wye accord as a continuation of the Oslo process, while Netanyahu is trying to maintain the status quo.

"Clinton believes in the process that was started in Oslo, while Netanyahu voted against the agreement, as did most of his cabinet when they were in the opposition," said Avineri.

"Netanyahu's aims are to try and finesse the Oslo Accords, change them, minimize and even to scuttle them, provided the blame does not fall on Israel. He has been consistent in this, and given his policy and ideology, this is understandable."

The Americans, he maintained, view positively the steps taken by the PA to combat terrorism and assert itself in the area under its control.

"Even the Israeli government has said the PA has been helpful in tracking down some Palestinian terrorists. Sheikh [Ahmed] Yassin, who certainly has blood on his hands, at least indirectly, was freed from jail by Netanyahu and is currently under house arrest by the PA," said Avineri.

See ANALYSIS, Page 21

ATTN: JOURNALISTS, EMBASSY PERSONNEL, CITIZENS

Briefing papers and discussants available concerning official Palestine Authority policies:

★ Status of the PLO Covenant
★ Asylum offered to suspects wanted for murder
★ Civil liberties and freedom of expression within the PA
★ Accountability for aid received
★ Training of Palestine Liberation Army
★ Keeping refugees in camps under the right of return
★ Daily output of the Palestine Broadcasting Corporation
★ New textbooks of the Palestine Authority
★ Arafat's speeches to his own people

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Fax. 02-6236470, Tel. 02-5300109 210290_D8_s0

TOP

TERROR VICTIMS SAY: NO TO TERRORISTS GOING FREE

To: The President of the United States of America

Dear Mr. President,

We want to tell you about Mrs. Ben-Ovadia, who opened an office in East Jerusalem to serve the Arab population. Then came the day when a Palestinian terrorist entered her office and shot her dead. Shortly before, Mrs. Ben-Ovadia's murderer had been freed from an Israeli prison as part of a deal, without having served his full sentence.

The undersigned families, bereaved and wounded victims of terrorist attacks, are very worried by your pressure to free more terrorists. Although you talk of peace, your actions send a clear message to terrorists: that they can continue carrying out acts of terror!

Because we have been forced to free terrorists, the commander of the Palestinian Police, Ghazi Jabali, who sent his police to murder the Levanon Family (whose signature appears below), has been pardoned and will even be among those welcoming you today.

The Abu-Sita brothers, who murdered Uri Magidish, the brother of Sigal (whose signature is below), continue to serve in the Palestinian security forces, and perhaps will participate in your reception parade and salute you. Perhaps past terrorists will also be there. They are today police officers - who , while wearing their uniforms, two years ago shot at Itamar Sudai, whose father's signature is below.

The murderers of David Boim, an American citizen, will not be there. After being wanted by Israel for a year for terrorist acts, they were sheltered by the Palestinian Authority, and returned to commit a suicidal attack on Jerusalem's Ben Yehuda Street, in which four civilians were killed. Nevertheless, the people who sent them are still free.

Also, those who organized the attack on the Mahaneh Yehuda Market, murdering 14 civilians, including the husband of Zippi Adorian (whose signature is below) - are still roaming free. The murderers themselves had been sought by Israel for a year and fled to the area under the Palestinian Authority, from where they emerged to carry out another terrorist act – this time a suicide attack.

Today when you are dining in Gaza with the leaders of the Palestinian Authority, you will be able to see Mohammed Dahlan, the head of the Palestinian Security Service in Gaza, the good friend of Mohammed Dief, whom he is protecting so that he should not be arrested and handed over. Mohammed Dief is responsible for the bus explosions and still, from time to time, reminds us that he is free by continuing to commit terrorist attacks.

We beg and request you not to put pressure on us to release more terrorists. You will return to green and pleasant Washington, and we will remain here, where murderers are roaming free. **We have grown weary from acts of murder and terrorist attacks. Don't set more murderers free upon us. The struggle against terrorism is not a matter for political gain nor is it a game of image-building.**

One more point - this time in the sphere of conscience, Mr. President: It is very painful for us that there is a double standard in which the US sends people all over the world to kidnap terrorists who have attacked American targets, but when the attacks are carried out in Israel and the targets are Israeli, even if the victims are American citizens (who are Jews) murder is forgiven, and treated with understanding and indulgence.

Mr. President, please prove to us otherwise: abandon the idea of freeing terrorists, and ensure that they are handed over to Israel in accordance with the Olso Agreement.

We have a great deal of additional information which we are ready to transfer to you if you would agree to meet with us. But if you do not have the time to meet with us – despite the request we have sent you through Minister Silvan Shalom and the US Ambassador – we, the representatives of terror victims, will be standing before you, opposite the Hilton Hotel, on Tuesday at 8 a.m., with all the information and photos of the victims. **This will remind you that behind the words and pictures, there are also the dead and their families.**

Signatures:

FAMILIES OF VICTIMS MURDERED BY ARAB TERRORISTS.

Adorian - the family of Eli הי"ד
Iyobi - the family of Efraim הי"ד
Ra'anan - the family of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anan הי"ד
Ben-Nun- the family of Harel הי"ד
Livman - the family of Shlomo הי"ד
Tubul - the family of the boy Lior הי"ד
Mendelsohn - the family of Yair הי"ד
Parag - the family of Yaakov הי"ד
Gadasi - the family of Yishai הי"ד
Becker - the family of Moshe הי"ד
Druck - the family of Rachel הי"ד
Atia - the family of Asher הי"ד
Simani - the family of Shahar הי"ד
Klein - the family of Gershon הי"ד
Karman - the family of the boy Ronen הי"ד
Shohat - the family of Margalite הי"ד
Shlush - the family of Charley הי"ד
Atali - the family of Elhanan הי"ד
Boim- the family of David הי"ד
Becher - the family of Eran הי"ד
Bachrach - the family of Ohad הי"ד
Deutch - the family of Yeshayahu הי"ד
Toledano - the family of Nissim הי"ד
Manos - the family of David הי"ד
Habah - the family of the child Rami הי"ד
Porat - the family of the girl Tirza הי"ד
Kadosh - the family of Jeanette הי"ד
Krotheimer - the family of Hanan הי"ד
Vazanah - the family of Shalva הי"ד
Delaroza - the family of David הי"ד
Katorza - the family of David הי"ד
Hirschberg - the family of Gabriel הי"ד
Klein - the family of Zvi הי"ד
Magidish - the family of Uri הי"ד
Rofeh - the family of Yitzhak הי"ד
Gaviy - the family of Yehuda הי"ד
Morali - the family of Albert הי"ד
Arbi - the family of Arik הי"ד
Dahan - the family of Shimon הי"ד
Yamin - the family of Yaakov הי"ד
Ramati - the family of Liora הי"ד
Polach - the family of the children Esther and Nurit הי"ד
Revah - the family of Gil הי"ד
Gross - the family of Aharon הי"ד
Felix - the family of Ofra הי"ד
Prigal - the family of the girl Sarit הי"ד
Zur - the family of Ita and Efraim הי"ד
Shorshan - the family of Doron הי"ד
Weinstock - the family of Yitzhak הי"ד
Zavitsky - the family of Hagit הי"ד
Dahare - the family of Avigdor הי"ד
Sudai - the family of Itamar הי"ד

VICTIMS OF TERRORISTS:

Rabbi Haim Druckman
Meir Indor
The Levanon Family

The Terror Victims Association
234 Jaffa Rd., POB 23666, Jerusalem, Tel: 02-538-8999, 052-639-409

210370_D8_s0

NEWS
in brief

Clinton explains his support for Israel

For the first candle lighting of Hanukka, President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary joined together with ministers, military men, rabbis, businessmen, diplomats, and a sprinkling of artists and opposition members at the Jerusalem Hilton's grand ballroom last night. As guests of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and his wife Sara, to the tunes of Dudu Fisher and the taste of Golan wines, those present heard the story of the origins of Clinton's attachment to Israel.

"My pastor," began Clinton, "had been to Israel over 40 times before he died in 1989. Once, before I became president, he said the following to me: 'You might become president one day. You will make mistakes... and God will forgive you. But God will not forgive you if you forget Israel.'"

Those gathered stood on their feet and gave Clinton a standing ovation. *Danna Harman*

Gazan arrested for assassination comment

A leader of the Islamic Jihad was detained by Palestinian police yesterday in Gaza after he said in a Spanish TV interview that he would not hesitate to kill President Bill Clinton if he had the chance.

Abdallah Shami, a teacher, was arrested on his way home from school after he said in an interview that if it wasn't for Clinton's huge security detail, he would kill the president "without hesitation" when he comes to the Gaza Strip today. Shami's teenage son Wisam concurred. "There is no enjoyment in life and the greatest joy is to be in paradise," he said. Clinton is expected to be guarded by thousands of security men. *AP*

Clinton promises to work for Azzam's release

President Bill Clinton yesterday promised he would do what he could to win the release of Azzam Azzam, who has been jailed in Egypt on charges of spying for Israel. Clinton made the pledge at a meeting last night with Azzam's brother, Sami, and with Azzam's wife and daughter. *Itim*

Olmert: Negotiate about Jerusalem now

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert told President Bill Clinton last night that he thought the Jerusalem issue should be negotiated now to expedite efforts to reach an overall settlement. But he stressed in their 25-minute meeting at city hall, that Jerusalem should remain a united city under Israeli sovereignty. *Itim*

Daley to inaugurate Karni industrial zone

US Commerce Secretary William Daley is scheduled to meet at the Karni industrial zone today with Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky and Palestinian Authority Trade Minister Maher Masri to review progress on reducing trade barriers.

Daley will be inaugurating the Karni industrial zone at noon and will take the visiting congressional delegation on a tour of the new facility that provides water and power to the zone. The facility is partially funded by the US Agency for International Development.

US officials said that when Daley meets with Palestinian businessmen in Bethlehem tonight, he will announce that the Washington-based International Management Group will be the American promoter for the Bethlehem tourism campaign for the year 2000 celebrations. *Hillel Kuttler*

Iran slams Palestinian charter change

Iran's Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi has condemned the cancellation of anti-Israel clauses in the PLO charter, saying it was a humiliation for the Palestinian people, Iranian newspapers reported yesterday.

"The recent move... to change the national charter is an act of meanness aimed at humiliating the Palestinian people," the daily Jomhuri Eslami quoted Kharrazi as saying. Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi also said the Palestinian move would pave the way for "more expansionism and aggression by Israel," the daily said. *Reuters*

Plane sent to Thailand to fetch crash survivors

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza yesterday sent a medical team in a private plane to Thailand, to bring back the Israeli married couple who survived the crash of their Thai Airlines plane over the weekend. Dany Raphaeli, the husband, was in satisfactory condition following a hemorrhage and anemia, while his wife was in better shape. The medical team included two doctors and a paramedic. The cost of the mission was paid for by the Thai airline. *Judy Siegel*

Net site provides virtual hanukkiot

Over 50,000 people are expected to light virtual hanukkiot and send letters to soldiers serving in Lebanon through NetKing's Internet site. Since the site, www.netking.com/reshet-tv/ner, was set up last Friday, more than 1,300 people have already "lit" candles and written messages to the soldiers. The site will be set up until through the eight days of Hanukka, and then the messages will be printed and delivered to the soldiers.

Marne Rochester

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AARON BLUM

and share in the family's sorrow

ZVI CASPI ז"ל

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Brother: **Yaki Zilberman**
Children: **Chavi and Itzik Glicksberg**
Nechami and Arnie Druck
Nurit and Benny Aumann
Chana and Yael Caspi
Yael and Amir Ben-David
22 grandchildren

Citing humanitarian grounds

PM urges Pollard's release

By DANNA HARMAN

Admitting yesterday that convicted spy Jonathan Pollard had been sent by Israel on a "mistaken mission," Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu argued for his release on humanitarian grounds, putting forth the government's position in greater detail than ever before.

President Bill Clinton, in turn, reiterated that the case is under review, and that a decision would be made "in a prompt way."

"Since he was sent by us on a mistaken mission – not to work against the United States, but nevertheless, to break the laws of the United States – we hope that, on a purely humanitarian appeal, a way will be found to release him," said Netanyahu at a joint press conference with Clinton.

Since recognizing Pollard as an Israeli spy in June, the main argument for his release has been based on humanitarian grounds, but this is the first time Netanyahu has publicly detailed the reasoning to any extent.

Netanyahu called Pollard's actions "bad and inexcusable," and openly admitted that Pollard had been sent by Israel to spy on the US.

"We think he should have served his time, and he did," said Netanyahu, stressing that Pollard had already served close to 13 years, most of them in solitary confinement.

"All that I appealed to President Clinton for is merely a humanitarian appeal... It is not based on exonerating Mr. Pollard. There is no exoneration for it," said Netanyahu. "It is not political. It is not to exonerate him. It is merely to end a very, very sorry case that has afflicted him and the people of Israel."

Clinton said the US Justice Department, all the law enforcement agencies under the department, and all other security, intelligence, and law enforcement agencies in the government had been invited to present their perspectives on the case by January.

"I will review all that," said Clinton, "plus whatever arguments are presented to me on the other side for the reduction of the sentence. And I will make a decision in a prompt way."

Pollard, from his jail cell in North Carolina, expressed satisfaction with Netanyahu's and Clinton's words, said one of his lawyers, who spoke to him yesterday.

Batsheva Tsur adds:

"We expect the greatest power in the world not to show revenge but rather to adopt a policy of generosity and consideration with regard to Pollard," Labor MK Ophir Pines-Paz told a crowd of about 100 adults and youth who held a demonstration outside Beit Hanassi yesterday evening while Clinton was speaking to President Ezer Weizman.

Pines-Paz, who was joined by Moledet MK Rehavam Ze'evi, another leader of the lobby for freeing Pollard, said: "Jonathan Pollard certainly does not present a threat. It is ridiculous to make out that he does. He was wrong and has apologized."



Peace Now supporters demonstrate near the Jerusalem Hilton yesterday. (Guy Gordon)

Gridlock in the capital

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

The streets of Jerusalem were reminiscent of two holidays yesterday: Thanksgiving weekend and Yom Kippur.

There were traffic jams on Jaffa Road as severe as in midtown Manhattan when Christmas shopping begins the day after Thanksgiving; at the same time, streets like Rehov Keren Hayesod that were blocked off in preparation for President Bill Clinton's motorcade saw pedestrians walking down the middle of the road like it was Yom Kippur morning.

It all added up to a nightmare, at least for local residents, though the Clinton family all seemed to be having a magnificent day.

Bill did the presidential thing, of course, meeting with the prime minister, the president, and the people, as well as laying a wreath at the grave of Yitzhak Rabin; Hillary visited Neveh Shalom/Wahat a-Salam, a joint Israeli-Arab village, and toured of the Mother and Child Pavilion at Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem; but Chelsea was the real tourist, visiting the Western Wall and placing a note in its cracks, praying at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and walking through the souk.

And despite their separate meanderings around town, they all experienced the same tight security.

For the man on the street, however, especially in eastern Jerusalem, the pomp and pageantry was insignificant compared with the mission: getting the peace process and the Wye agreement moving.

"Clinton should look out with two eyes, both towards the Jews and the Palestinians," said Faisal Abu-Mayaleh, sitting outside his shop on the Via Dolorosa. "He can't support one side, he has to be fair to both."

His brother, Majad, sitting alongside, said Clinton should "apologize to the Palestinians for his mistakes, for using his veto against Palestinian rights. He should announce his support for a Palestinian state."

Across town, others were lobbying in their own way for Palestinian rights: Arab laborers who tried to enter through the Gilo checkpoint were barred from doing so because of Clinton's visit, and a riot broke out. Police used rubber bullets to disperse the crowd, and four laborers were injured.

The impeachment/peace process intersection

IN CONTEXT

By HILLEL KUTTLER

Not even a beleaguered President Bill Clinton could have forecast back in October at the Wye River peace talks that his impeachment crisis would intersect so precisely with a do-good visit to Israel to promote peace seven weeks later.

But the matter is enveloping him here as never before, with the House of Representatives scheduled to vote Thursday on whether to approve impeachment, which would make Clinton only the second president ever to undergo a Senate trial.

All has come full circle in 11 months. The Monica Lewinsky scandal became public in the hours between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's turns in the Oval Office in January.

And it is competing head-to-head with Clinton's peace efforts this week.

Clinton's political jeopardy dominated yesterday's press conference with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, intruded on a briefing hosted by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and national security adviser Sandy Berger, and flat-out consumed White House spokesman Joe Lockhart's briefing.

Netanyahu came to Clinton's defense, interrupting a questioner to steer the agenda back to the peace process.

Berger unequivocally denied rumors that Clinton is considering truncating his visit to head home to lobby legislators to vote against impeachment.

The Clintons, he said, are eager to see Bethlehem in this Christmas season. But Berger took umbrage when ABC's Sam Donaldson suggested that it is "strange" for Clinton to prefer sightseeing tomorrow over returning to fight for his job.

Berger even resorted to arguing that Clinton couldn't leave early, because "lots of very hardworking advance people have put an enormous amount of time" into planning the visit.

In their public statements, US officials insisted that Clinton is not distracted at all here by the impeachment threats. Lockhart said later that on Saturday's flight from Washington, Clinton dealt with the peace process and "other business," but spent "very little time" on the impeachment.

Lockhart said that while he could not quantify the extent to which Clinton's mind might be elsewhere, the peace process has not fallen an unwitting victim.

"What's important is the president has put a priority on moving the peace process forward, and that's what [he] is doing. He has always managed to do both."

Clinton pledges to persuade PNC to amend Covenant

By LIAT COLLINS

In his speech to youth at the Jerusalem International Convention Center yesterday, President Bill Clinton reconfirmed his country's commitment to Israel as "ironclad" and said that at today's Palestinian National Council meeting in Gaza he would ensure that it rescinds the clauses in the Palestinian Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

"[Today] I will go to Gaza to witness, to address the members of the Palestinian National Council and other Palestinian organizations. I will witness the affirmation of their commitment to forswear [those clauses], fully, finally and forever," he said. He said he would also make it clear that violence can never be a legitimate tool.

Clinton said his visit to Israel was aimed at standing by the country at a time when it is taking risks for peace. He warned however that: "The road will be bumpy." He stressed that: "The US will always remember that only a strong Israel can make peace." And Clinton said that the US realizes that only Israel can make final decisions about its own future.

Standing on a floral-and-flag-bedecked stage, the president was granted a welcome worthy of a visiting rock star with chants of "Clinton, Clinton" and rhythmic clapping.

The largest applause came as he used the Hebrew words "*Yesh breira* [there is a choice]" to emphasize the opportunity for peace.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu noted that in the Israeli Declaration of Independence it is written that Israel's arm is outstretched in peace "and it is still outstretched today in peace to all our neighbors," he said.

Netanyahu said that while no other people has suffered as much as the Jewish people, the Palestinians also have suffered and continue to suffer. The time has come to stop the wars and suffering, he said.

Netanyahu stressed the importance of educating towards peace.

He shared a dream that he wants realized – "not in my grandchildren's time; not even during my children's adolescence but much, much sooner" – in which Israeli youth can freely travel to Gaza, swim at the beach, eat – "in a kosher restaurant, of course" – and safely return home.

"I believe that what is necessary, finally, 80 years after the beginning of the struggle between us and the Palestinians in this land, is for a courageous leadership on the Palestinian side to cross the river... to say that Israel's existence is a permanent fact – again not because it has such a strong army that it will always be able to defend itself, but because that's how it should be."

See PNC, Page 21

CLARIFICATION

The issue of Jonathan Pollard, particularly Israel's request that he be released, was raised by Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon during his recent visit to the US, his spokesman Ra'anan Gissin said yesterday. Gissin denied Friday's report "Sharon ignored Pollard in the US" and said Sharon discussed Pollard's release in nearly every meeting he held.

MediaWorks **CORRECTION** to Dec. 11 advertisement

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A Message from our Ancestor (141 B.C.E.)

Simon replied: "We have neither taken other men's land, nor have we conquered anything that belongs to others. Rather, we have taken our ancestral heritage which had been unjustly conquered by our enemies on different occasions. Now we, seizing our opportunity, hold fast to the inheritance of our fathers."

I Maccabees, 15:33

Happy Hanukka! **Women in Green**

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The presidents light candles

By BATSHEVA TSUR

The Clintons were mobbed by an enthusiastic crowd at Beit Hanassi last night, following a Hanukka candle-lighting ceremony hosted by President Ezer Weizman and his wife Reuma.

President Bill Clinton, who in a show of empathy went to shake the hands of 150 young children invited to the ceremony – among them cancer victims, youngsters from underprivileged neighborhoods, and members of the Seeds of Peace movement – ended up shaking the hands of hundreds of invitees, while Hillary Clinton gamely joined in.

The security guards extracted them from the reception hall with difficulty.

"You are celebrating not only one week of happiness, but thousands of years of triumph over adversity. May the light kindle a divine spark of peace among all the peoples in the Holy Land," Clinton said at the ceremony marking the first night of Hanukka.

Weizman lauded the "affection and support" heaped by Clinton on the Israeli people.

When Weizman introduced the US president to two soldiers wounded in Lebanon, Clinton rose from his seat and put his arm around their shoulders.

He also congratulated 11-year-old Moshe Matbabo, after the young member of the Ethiopian community pluckily lit the candle, singing the blessing unfalteringly in front of the world's cameras.

could face impeachment. Even as

هكذا من الاصل

صكذا من الاصل



Chelsea Clinton walks away from the Western Wall after placing a note in it yesterday. (AP)

Chelsea prays at Western Wall

Chelsea Clinton prayed at the Western Wall on the eve of Hanukka and visited Christian and Moslem holy places.

She placed a note in the Western Wall and stroked the ancient stone, running her hand high up the stone as women rocked back and forth in prayer beside her. She then knelt in prayer.

During her visit, a shofar sounded a wailing note.

The only gaffe in US President Bill Clinton's daughter's visit occurred when she toured the Temple Mount. She entered the Dome of the Rock and tried to shake hands with a Moslem man wearing a white skullcap, but quickly withdrew her hand when he recoiled.

In accordance with traditions of modesty, devout Moslem men do not shake hands with women.

Clinton, dressed in dark pants and jacket, prayed in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Officials said a special room was opened for her to pray in.

Emerging from the church, a smiling Clinton shook hands with a Greek Orthodox priest. Earlier, she shook hands with a group of visiting US Marines. A swarm of police and photographers followed her as she strolled along the Cardo and walked through the crowded souk. Tourists, a group of soldiers and shoppers stopped to watch and wave.

After touring the Old City, Clinton was driven to Kibbutz Tzova, where she visited the dairy and a children's playground. (AP)

Arab teen stabs settler schoolgirl

Victim in stable condition

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Hours after President Bill Clinton set foot on Israeli soil, a 15-year-old Palestinian teenager from Sebastiya stabbed a 17-year-old Jewish high school student in the back at the entrance to Shavei Shomron yesterday morning.

Shortly after 8 a.m., Tamar Klein was standing with a group of schoolgirls outside the entrance to the settlement, when Suwad Razel stabbed her in the back and attempted to flee.

A soldier on guard saw the knife and fired in the air as the Razel plunged the knife into Klein's back. Together with Albert Nakash, a local resident, he overpowered her as others helped Klein.

Klein was taken to Meir Hospital in Kfar Sava with the knife protruding from her back near the right shoulder. After surgery, her condition was listed as serious but stable.

Razel was taken to the Kedum police station, where she told the police she acted independently and decided to attack Jews after reading from the Koran on Saturday night. She reportedly told investigators that she was motivated by Clinton's visit.

Judea and Samaria police spokesman Opher Sivan said she had planned to stab Jews and then commit suicide.

The area IDF commander, Col. Shimi, told reporters that the actions of the soldier whose alertness led to the quick capture had prevented a more serious incident. The army, he said, has reinforced its presence in settlements and maintains a high state of alert due to the escalation of violent clashes in the region. The fact that the girls were standing outside the fence around the settlement he says is problematic, adding that you can't place a guard on every settler.

The attack shocked the 120-family community, Klein's parents Haya and Arye are among the first who settled there some 21 years ago, said Dina Yeshurun, who runs the settlement's office.

There were about eight girls standing at an information booth set up outside the community in preparation for the lighting of the first Hanukka candle ceremony at Mt. Eval and a planned torch-bearing marathon slated to take place in memory of fallen IDF soldier Shai Shechter, she said. There was also a convoy of some six jeeps that planned to accompany the pupils on their outing and, at the time of the attack, soldiers were stocking up on groceries at the community store.

Nakash said he was repairing his truck when he heard shots and screams and ran toward the guardhouse and then after the fleeing Palestinian girl.

"We caught her, she struggled, and spoke in English. We forcefully took her to an IDF vehicle and waited for troops and police to arrive," he said, adding that she murmured "Clinton" and "peace."

Haim Zeig, the community's ambulance driver and paramedic, was called to the scene and arrived minutes after the attack. He placed Klein on her stomach in the ambulance and inserted a drip to prevent her from going into shock and left for the hospital, at the same time alerting an intensive care unit which met the ambulance en route.

Haya Klein told Israel Radio that her daughter, who was fully conscious, asked doctors to cover the knife so she would not be concerned. Hours after surgery, she said her daughter was in the intensive care unit and was expected to remain there for a day or two. A 14-cm. knife, she said, nicked the lung, but did not cause serious internal damage.

"She saw a girl but didn't recognize her, thinking it was someone from the ulpana at the settlement," she said. Suddenly she said she felt something and fell.

Settlers, she said, are on good terms with their neighbors in Sebastiya where the girl is from. In response to the attack, residents of Shavei Shomron took over a hilltop opposite Sebastiya.

For some Palestinians, Clinton is part of the problem

By BEN LYNFIELD

While President Bill Clinton is heading tomorrow for a warm reception in Bethlehem's Manger Square readied by the Palestinian Authority, he will clearly have his work cut out to win hearts and minds at the nearby Aida refugee camp, which is not on his itinerary.

The Bethlehem Municipality yesterday added to its preparations for the Clinton visit, whose highlight will be a stop at the Church of the Nativity: It gave out US and Palestinian flags free of charge to children, who will presumably bring them along to the festivities.

This came after it provided shopkeepers with posters of Clinton and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat that say "We have a dream," and others of Arafat that say "We have the same dream as yours."

But in Aida, a jumble of drab concrete structures made almost invisible by sprawling IDF fortifications around Rachel's tomb, most residents don't see it that way. The camp's 3,400 residents have their origins in Jaffa, Deir Yassin, Ramle, and other areas that became part of Israel.

"The American government, down to its very roots, is against the Palestinian people," said Yasser Maashal, standing near the spot where clashes flared Sunday between Palestinian protesters demanding prisoner releases and IDF troops.

To prevent any recurrence, eight PA policemen monitored the entrance to the camp from a pick-up truck painted over as a personnel carrier. They were sent there as part of a wider PA effort to deter demonstrations that Arafat fears will set back further IDF redeployments.

Their commander, who spent most of his career at a Palestine Liberation Army base in Iraq, sat in the front seat munching felafel, a billy club at his side.

"Clinton's visit means recognition from the largest state in the world," he said, echoing the view of Arafat, his commander in chief. "We hope it will be of help to us and bring something beautiful for our children."

Maashal, who termed the police presence "unusual," said, "America has no interests in common with the Palestinian people. America is Israel's ally and Israel acts as its policeman in the region."

He and other residents pointed to the US refusal to lift sanctions against Iraq as proof that Washington is hostile to the entire Arab world, not just the Palestinians.

Maashal was dismissive about the star-spangled banner fluttering alongside the Palestinian flag. "Not long ago the American flag was burned together with the Israeli flag. This is because America has the same position as Israel," he said.

Viewed from Aida, the animosity is not hard to fathom. Since the signing of the Oslo and subsequent accords, life in the camp, residents say, has gotten worse, with one exception: IDF troops no longer enter the camp.

Young men cannot gain permits to work in Israel since regulations have been increasingly tightened, especially after Hamas suicide bombs ripped through buses and malls. Some people walk five or six kilometers through the hills each day to reach their jobs.

Moreover, residents blame the US for all the Israeli policies they abhor - construction of settlements, which they consider to include Har Homa and Gilo, whose red-roofed houses are perched above the camp; the non-release of political prisoners, whom they consider strugglers against occupation; the perpetuation of their current status as refugees, an issue which, according to the Oslo Accords, is to be addressed in final-status talks.

"I have a brother in prison, but I don't believe anything will change for him because of Clinton's visit," said a man who was jailed during the intifada.

A Vital Message

To: President Clinton, Bibi Netanyahu, and All the Members of The Israeli Knesset

From: David Ben-Gurion

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David Ben-Gurion
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Hillary gets view of 'the everyday work of peace'

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Hillary Rodham Clinton appeared to savor the first-hand lesson in what she termed "the everyday work of peace" she received yesterday from the children, teachers and parents she encountered at the village of Neveh Shalom and at a center for mother-child education in Jerusalem.

Not even long delays, repeated security checks or overcast weather could dull the sense of wonder and excitement pulsating through the children with whom she met, or the enthusiasm of Clinton and her escort, Sara Netanyahu.

"I want to show her my pictures," five-year-old Isam said as he and his fellow kindergarteners prepared for the special guests at the Neveh Shalom/Wahat al-Salam preschool and kindergarten at Neveh Shalom, near Latrun.

Outside the adjoining primary school, trees were decorated with hamsas and cherubs, and the title of Clinton's book *It Takes a Village* seemed to take on a new meaning in the excited village of Neveh Shalom, where Jews and Arabs live side by side.

Informed that her special guests had arrived, Adi Pressler, 9, of nearby Tsur Hadassah, trailing harem pants and scarves behind her she had donned for a special dance for the guests, hoped "this important lady" would forgive her if she messed up. "I don't want her to take any presents home from here, just the idea that there should be peace," she said.

That idea was brought home to the children's guests first by the lighting of a hanukkia, a Christmas tree, and a Ramadan lantern in the kindergarten, then in the primary school youngsters' song "A Time of Peace," which seemed to touch a chord with both Clinton and Netanyahu.

"I'm very grateful that the hard work that the prime minister and [Palestinian Authority] Chairman [Yasser] Arafat and my husband did at Wye helped move us closer to fulfilling a dream of peace here in the Middle East, and particularly between Israelis and Palestinians," Clinton said.

"Despite the setbacks that come anytime any great challenge is being pursued, the strong belief that peace will prevail must once again be reinforced."

Praising the school's doctrine of bicultural, bilingual education, Clinton said: "If all children could have this experience, we would be that much closer to peace, where we would respect and look at each other as individuals, and not classify people according to the group from which they come."



Hillary Clinton is surrounded by children during a visit to Neveh Shalom yesterday. (AP)

"President [John] Kennedy once said that on this Earth, God's work is our own, and certainly the work of building peace and building trust is among the most important work we have to do. Thank you for doing God's work, the everyday work of peace," Clinton said, before she and Netanyahu stopped to pose and hug with some of the children.

"Clinton shares with all of us the hope for peace," Netanyahu said, "that our people will live together, work together, dream together for a different better future for all of us."

The two women seemed to have an easy rapport, nodding to each other as they shared ideas or explanations. That was also the case at their visit to Yad Rahel in Jerusalem's Katamonim neighborhood, where youngsters lined the street singing the first lady's name.

The two visited the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters, a program designed to help disadvantaged mothers help their own children and themselves to learn. Five-year-olds from the Arab neighborhood of Beit Safafa and Ethiopian newcomers from Talpiot were busy with glue and brightly colored construction paper as they built small houses with their mothers, an exercise designed to stress the importance of family life and respect for each others' cultures.

Clinton first found out about the program – founded by Dr. Avima Lombard of the National Council of Jewish Women's Research Institute for Innovation in Education at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1969 – in 1985, introduced it in her own state of Arkansas, and has been a major supporter of it since.

After seeing the youngsters and their parents sing and work together, Clinton praised the program and its sponsors, recalling the words of the Talmud. "It says that every blade of grass has an angel that bends over it and whispers: 'Grow, grow,'" she said. "Well, when it comes to our children, we all have an obligation to be those angels, and lean over and whisper: 'Grow and grow.'"

Arab-Jewish work at Hadassah impresses the First Lady

By JUDY SIEGEL

The sight of Jewish, Moslem, and Ethiopian immigrant children and parents sharing the same Jerusalem hospital wards and helping each other yesterday moved Hillary Clinton to hope that peace among different peoples could be built in the rest of the region as well.

The first lady arrived an hour late at the Mother and Child Center of Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem, accompanied by Sara Netanyahu and welcomed by Hadassah president Marlene Post.

Young patients, hospitalized with anything from broken legs and neurological diseases to cancer, said they hoped people could live together peacefully in this region "like the Americans do."

Clinton, who wore a navy blue pants suit, was impressed by the hospital school, where patients study with specially trained teachers and computers at their own level while away from their own classrooms.

The Arab and Jewish children, who spent the time waiting for the guests' arrival by drawing pictures and making dreidels, waved the American flags they had been given and happily accepted the packages of sweets that Clinton and Netanyahu brought them.

Clinton said she had heard much in the US about how the Hadassah Medical Organization, with the support of over 300,000 members in the US and 32 other countries, is working to cure children and adults.

She added her country's thanks to Hadassah staffers for bringing their expertise to Kenya and saving lives after the terrorist bombing of the US embassy and nearby buildings earlier this year.

They then went to the Chagall Synagogue next door and marvelled at the 12 stained glass windows depicting the 12 tribes of Israel.

Post presented both Clinton and Netanyahu with silver-and-brass charity boxes made by the artist Gideon Haim, with peace doves and a Jerusalem skyline.

A dreidel for Chelsea Clinton, which had been taken to space by the Jewish astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman, was given to the first lady as well.

Sarid: Tichon's boycott represents only Tichon

NOTEBOOK

• MERETZ leader Yossi Sarid yesterday criticized Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, saying Tichon's boycott of the events relating to the presidential visit is not representative of the House.

"The boycott is an unreasonable act toward a friendly president who has already visited and addressed the Knesset and does not deserve such rude and insulting treatment from the Israeli legislators. It should be clear that Tichon's response is his personal response and not that of the 120 MKs," Sarid said.

Tichon said repeatedly that he would not participate in the official functions relating to the visit because US President Bill Clinton did not include the Knesset on his itinerary as is customary for visiting heads of state, except during parliamentary recess. Tichon said that by skipping the Knesset Clinton was harming its standing as the symbol of the state and democracy.

Somewhere between the two approaches was MK Ruby Rivlin (Likud), who said he thought it better that Clinton not visit the Knesset this time to avoid giving it the same standing as the Palestinian National Council, which he is due to address today.

• SCORES of messages have been flooding the switchboard and the fax machine of the Jerusalem Hilton on King David Street. The most common message is simply one of support for Clinton, including such comments as "We love you, Bill," and the biblical "*hazak ve'ematz* [be strong and of good courage]." The second most common message is a plea to the US president to free convicted spy Jonathan Pollard.

• THE Hilton, with no regular guests or visitors, has become a White House in exile. Close to 1,000 members of the presidential party, including many not staying in the hotel, have set up their offices there. The lobby and ballrooms are being used for impromptu meetings.

• THE crowded schedule planned for the Clintons left them no time to eat lunch yesterday. It was teatime when they arrived at Beit Hanassi and First Lady Hillary Clinton put diets aside and unabashedly enjoyed the homemade apple-pie served by her Israeli counterpart Reuma Weizman over a discussion on the status of women in Israel. State Attorney Edna Arbel joined them.

Downstairs, the men reviewed the state of the peace process over tuna sandwiches and Bill Clinton's favorite: doughnuts – this time in honor of Hanukka.

The American First Lady also had no time to change and spent the day in a comfortable navy blue pants suit. An assistant, entrusted with her purse, was close in tow and Hillary Clinton excused herself for a minute now and then to freshen her make-up.

• A HANUKKA party makes a good photo-op and the American media turned up in force to cover the candle-lighting at Beit Hanassi. However, enough space had been allocated only for a pool and many of the media representatives found themselves without a good angle in the overcrowded reception room of the presidential residence. Jostling for space, newsmen were virtually coming to blows and a few loud curses interrupted the otherwise low-key ceremony.

Clinton pays respects at Rabin's grave

By HILLEL KUTTLER

Traveling world leaders leave their mark on gravesites throughout the world, perfunctorily placing wreaths here and there to commemorate dignitaries they had likely never met.

The charge can hardly be leveled at President Bill Clinton, not when it comes to Yitzhak Rabin.

With a blue kippa perched upon his head, Clinton yesterday made his personal pilgrimage to Rabin's grave on Mt. Herzl. He had visited the site once before, in early 1996, and often mentions the kippa and a stone he had kept from Rabin's funeral, which still sit on his bedroom bureau.

Arriving just moments after his press conference with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Clinton approached the Leaders of the Nation section in step with Leah Rabin, with Hillary Rodham Clinton a pace behind. At Rabin's grave, the president stopped, clasped his hands, and gazed down, mumbling.

Kneeling at the base of the grave, he placed a stone beside the eternal flame, and as he rose, he put a dark oval stone atop the black portion of the monument, his right hand softly riding down part of the vertical slab, as if caressing Rabin's cheek.

White House officials said that one stone came from the White House, the other from the Wye River estate where Clinton brokered the most recent peace deal.

At the same time, Mrs. Clinton was placing violet flowers near the flame. Leah Rabin set down a green bouquet, her eyes grew moist, then she suddenly chuckled. Mrs. Clinton draped an arm around her. The three stood in line, exchanging a few words, as the president patted his wife's shoulder.

Rabin's daughter Dalia Pelosof and granddaughter Noa Ben-Artzi laid their flowers, too, and just like that the five-minute ceremony ended. As they walked away, Clinton and Leah Rabin held hands.

A US Embassy official approached the reporters and referred to a request the slain premier's widowhad made beforehand to maintain the event's solemnity.

"Thank you for not asking the president a question," she said. "We appreciate that."

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PLO COVENANT article 7: It is a national duty to bring up individual Palestinians in an Arab revolutionary manner... He must be prepared for the armed struggle...	Our Arabic Language for Fifth Grade p. 69-70: ...there will be a Jihad and our country shall be freed... You must know, my boy, that Palestine is your grave responsibility...
PLO COVENANT article 9: Armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine.	Reader and Literary Texts for Eighth Grade p. 131-133: Without blood not even one centimeter will be liberated.
PLO COVENANT article 15: The liberation of Palestine ...aims at the elimination of Zionism in Palestine...	Our Arabic Language for Fifth Grade p. 66: Why must we fight the Jews and drive them out of our land?
PLO COVENANT article 19: The partition of Palestine in 1947 and the establishment of the state of Israel are entirely illegal...The Balfour declaration ...[is] null and void.	Modern Arab History and Contemporary Problems, Part 2, for Tenth Grade p. 51: the Balfour Declaration [to establish a Jewish state- ed.] is regarded as illegal...
PLO COVENANT article 21: Judaism being a religion is not an independent nationality. Nor do Jews constitute a single nation with an identity of its own.	Modern Arab History and Contemporary Problems, Part 2, for Tenth Grade p. 59: The Jews deluded themselves that their religious faith was sufficient to turn them into one nation.
PLO COVENANT article 3: The Arab Palestinian people... reject all solutions which are substitutes for the total liberation of Palestine.	Reader and Literary Texts for Eighth Grade p. 120-122: The oppressors [Israel ed.] have overstepped the boundary, therefore Jihad and sacrifice are a duty.... let us gather for war with red blood and blazing fire... Oh Palestine, the youth will redeem your land...
PLO COVENANT article 33: It [Israel] is racist...	Islamic Education for Eighth Grade p. 95: "Racism: mankind has suffered from this evil... Satan has, in the eyes of many people, made their evil actions appear beautiful... Such a people are the Jews..."
PLO COVENANT article 22: ...the liberation of Palestine will destroy the Zionist and imperialist presence...	Our Arabic Language for Fifth Grade p. 67, 69: Remember: the final and inevitable result will be the victory of the Muslims over the Jews... The [Arab] Nation will recruit its forces and there will be a Jihad and our country shall be freed.

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The International Coalition for Missing Israeli Soldiers Wishes to Thank Former POW, United States Senator John McCain, for His Efforts on Behalf of Israel's MIAs.

JOHN McCAIN
ARIZONA
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

241 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-0303
(202) 224-2235

United States Senate

December 8, 1998

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Later this week, you will be meeting with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat as part of the Administration's effort at securing a lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians. There are two issues that I feel must be resolved in order to establish the atmosphere necessary to ensure that the Wye Plantation Agreement survives the periods of tension and conflict that will inevitably arise over the next several years.

The first issue, and one that is particularly close to my heart, involves the fate of Israeli soldiers missing-in-action. While the United States does not bear responsibility for these individuals, it cannot be denied that their welfare and that of their families is vitally important to Israeli society and, consequently, cannot be ignored. The status of one missing soldier in particular should be a topic of discussion when you meet with Chairman Arafat. That individual is Zachary Baumel, a U.S. citizen serving in the Israeli Army as a tank crewman. Baumel was captured, along with the other four members of the crew, by the Syrian army during the June 1982 war in Lebanon. Two of the members of the crew were released, but the other three, including Baumel, remain unaccounted for, despite evidence that they were probably captured alive.

Efforts by Baumel's family and others to ascertain the missing soldier's status have run into a brick wall over the years. A Freedom-of-Information Act request filed with the U.S. Department of State on Baumel's behalf was devoid of useful information despite the certainty that the Department has more information than it has disclosed. As the sponsor earlier this decade of legislation, which became law, designed to compel federal agencies to disclose information on the fate of U.S. military personnel missing in action, I am entirely sympathetic with the plight of the Baumel family.

That, however, is an internal matter that I will address in another forum. More immediate is the need to raise the issue of Baumel's fate with Chairman Arafat, who must, and no doubt does, understand the importance of this issue to Israel. During a period when demonstrations of good faith are essential, progress in determining the fate of missing Israeli soldiers known to have been captured alive should assume a higher profile in your Administration's approach to the peace process.

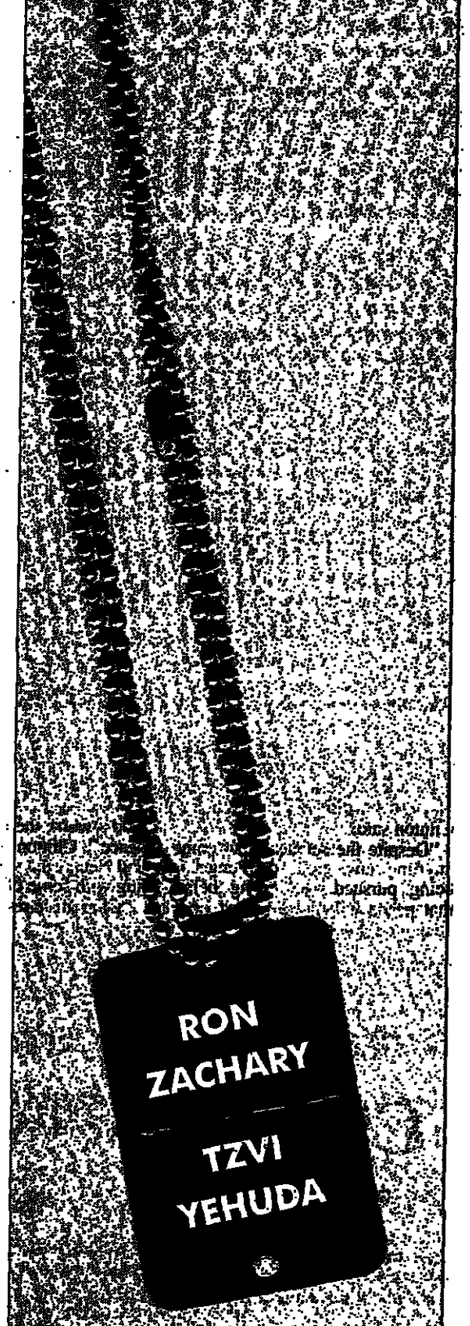
The second issue I wish to address involves Palestinian Authority propaganda that is, inarguably, racist in its portrayal of Israel's majority Jewish population. Palestinian Authority official statements are reminiscent of those disseminated by the propaganda machine of Joseph Goebbels during the 1930s and should be strenuously condemned by all nations. Quite simply, there can be no long-lasting peace in the Middle East as long as the Arab populations are inculcated from the highest levels of their governments with the most vile anti-Semitic vituperation. I cannot emphasize enough the importance that the United States convey that message to the Palestinian Authority. Anti-Semitic propaganda cannot but have a deleterious effect on the prospects for establishing a lasting peace in that region.

Mr. President, your upcoming meeting with Yasser Arafat is an important opportunity to make progress on these key issues. I urge you to take this request to heart and to incorporate the issues raised in this letter into your agenda for that meeting.

Sincerely,

John S. McCain
United States Senator

JSM/wef



A 1998 Gallup Poll Demonstrated that the Israeli Public Overwhelmingly Supports the Contention of US Senator John McCain that Israel's MIAs be made a top priority in the peace negotiations:

86.4% of Israelis do not believe Yasser Arafat's claim that he does not have any information about Israel's MIAs.

87.4% of Israelis agreed that Israel must demand the disclosure of all information pertaining to the MIAs before releasing any more Palestinian prisoners.

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat has refused to comply with his signed commitment in the 1998 Wye Accords to supply information on Zachary Baumel and other Israeli soldiers who went missing in battle with Palestinian and Syrian forces in 1982. Over the last five years Israel has released thousands of Palestinian prisoners. All Israel has received in return from Mr. Arafat is half of Baumel's army ID tag.

President Clinton: Arafat Knows ... The Time to Ask Him is Now

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WORLD

in brief

Rockets slam into Kabul; at least 17 killed

KABUL (AP) – Terrorized residents scrambled for cover as successive rocket assaults shook the war-ravaged capital yesterday killing at least 17 people and wounding more than 80 others, witnesses and officials said. A Taliban-run Radio Shariat broadcast said 21 people were killed in the rocket attack and three houses were destroyed. The worst barrage shattered a northern Kabul neighborhood, with one rocket hitting just in front of a crowded bus. No one took responsibility for the attack, one of the worst assaults on the capital in months.

British tycoon Lew Grade dies at 91

LONDON (AP) – Lew Grade, the cigar-chomping, legendary entertainment tycoon who founded Britain's first commercially funded television company, died yesterday. He was 91. Lord Grade, whose projects included the TV series, "The Saint," and the movie "On Golden Pond," died of heart failure at the London Clinic which he entered two weeks ago for surgery, his spokesman Dennis Michael said. His wife, Kathie, whom he married 56 years ago, and their adopted son, Paul, were at his bedside.Grade, the son of Jewish immigrants from Ukraine, was raised in London's East End. He gave up an early career as a hoofer to start a small showbiz agency office in 1934.

EU envoy meets with Syrians

DAMASCUS (AP) – European Union Middle East envoy Miguel Moratinos said yesterday that Europe will continue to work on reviving the stalled Syrian-Israeli peace talks. "For the moment, there is no new plan for reactivating talks, but there are ongoing efforts. I will continue my mission to see how and when we can re-launch peace talks," Moratinos said after a one-hour meeting with Syrian President Hafez Assad. He met with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa shortly after his arrival here Saturday. Moratinos is in the Syrian capital as part of his regular trips to the Middle East to promote the peace talks.

US warns of possible Gulf attacks on Americans

RIYADH (AP) – United States embassies in four Gulf nations said yesterday they have information indicating the "strong possibility" of a terrorist attack at one or more US targets in the region over the next 30 days. A statement distributed to American citizens in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and Bahrain asked them to be on alert to "any suspicious activity and take precautionary steps to reduce the profile and vulnerability of any US facilities."

Body of missing Iranian writer found

TEHERAN (AP) – An Iranian writer missing since last week has been found dead, his daughter said yesterday. He is the fifth critic of the Islamic regime to die in mysterious circumstances.

Iran's judiciary, controlled by the hard-liners, blamed unnamed foreigners for the killings while a group of lawmakers accused an exiled Iranian opposition organization. The latest victim is Mohammad Jafar Pouyandeh, a 45-year-old writer and translator, who had been missing since last Wednesday. His body was found Thursday, apparently strangled to death, Pouyandeh's daughter, 17-year-old Nazanin, said. No personal belongings including his watch were missing, she said.

Nestle tries to recoup after poisoned cake scare

MILAN (AP) – The maker of two popular brands of Christmas cake launched a counteroffensive yesterday after a rat poison scare that alarmed the nation. After testing, the government determined that the only cakes with poison in them were two sent to the ANSA news agency. They were accompanied by a warning from animal-rights activists that cakes called *panettone* had been injected with poison nationwide. Nestle Italia put on a *panettone* festival yesterday in front of Milan's central train station in a bid to restore faith in its cakes. People dressed in blue Santa Claus costumes handed out free samples as cheery Christmas tunes played.

MK Kleiner: Generali rep. pledges to publish Holocaust names

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

A personal representative of Assicurazioni Generali Chairman Antoine Bernheim this weekend told MK Michael Kleiner the company is prepared to publish in the near future a list of 330,000 names of insurance policyholders from the World War II era. It may also consider offering payments to the families of those killed during the Holocaust, Kleiner said yesterday.

A company spokesman last night denied the Italian-based insurer had made any offer of settlement or publication to Kleiner, maintaining this would only be done, if at all, through formal channels.

However, another company spokesman from America said he could not rule out the possibility that Bernheim did send somebody to meet Kleiner, but added: "If that was the case, it was certainly done on an informal basis."

Kleiner said the representative also said that German insurance company Allianz is now prepared to publish its list of some 1.5 million names.

Publication of names of policyholders would leave the companies open to potential settlements with inheritors, should agreement to pay be reached either in court or via the international commission established to examine the wartime activities of European insurers.

"I really welcome publication, but also demand a commitment to compensate," said Kleiner. "They're speaking now about some sort of compensation."

Kleiner suggested taking the values of the policies from the time of the Holocaust, converting them into dollars and multiplying by 11, to match the increase in the dollar rate since then. As these would be *ex gratia* payments, the interest accrued would have to be forgotten, he added.

Three weeks ago, Generali met Bernheim's representative, who offered to publish the names in three stages in alphabetic order. Kleiner rejected this because many of the claimants are older people and need the money immediately. The representatives said the company is now prepared to publish the list in its entirety, said Kleiner.

A senior Generali spokesman last night rejected Kleiner's claims that any official had offered to cut a deal with him.

"There's absolutely no truth to it," said the Trieste-based executive. "Generali has agreed to act in the context of the international commission. There, the representative of Generali is sitting with Bobby Brown [the prime minister's adviser of Diaspora affairs] on a subcommittee to assess the way to do this."

The first meeting between the two sides is expected in January. That meeting will not only examine Generali's wartime policies but those of several other European insurers, which have also agreed to participate in the commission.

"Our denial concerns doing anything on a unilateral basis," added the executive. "The money issue is definitely being done on a global basis."

5.5% 'arnona' hike proposed for '99

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Interior Minister Eli Suissa yesterday announced their intention to increase *arnona* (municipal property taxes) by 5.5 percent next year.

Their proposal is dependent on the approval of the Knesset Finance Committee, which put up considerable opposition to their attempt last year at an *arnona* hike, which resulted in a watered-down rise in rates for 1998.

The ministries also announced they have begun working on a new system for calculating *arnona* payments. The multi-year system will be based on giving greater freedom to councils in setting rates, as long as they are not in debt.

Legislation will be introduced in order to implement this reform, with the intention of launching the new plan in 2000.

The 5.5% rise is based on the 12 months from September 1997, in which time the consumer price index (CPI) rose 4.7%. If approved, the real-term *arnona* hike will be 0.8%.

The decision was taken by the ministers to base the increase on the year to September, so as to avoid the 3% October jump in inflation, according to a statement from the Treasury.



Hanukka in Moscow

Jews dance in Pushkin Square in downtown Moscow to celebrate the first night of Hanukka yesterday. (AP)

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The Palestinian Authority is not changing the Covenant

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Sharon hints gov't might initiate early elections

By SARAH HONIG

Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday mentioned for the first time the possibility that the government will initiate early elections soon.

Speaking at a press conference in Jerusalem after his meeting with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Sharon also discussed domestic politics.

He told reporters that "if the government fails to stabilize the coalition, it is conceivable that this government will itself have to initiate early elections."

He said "it is impossible for us to chase after every single MK, to chase after every single party, to chase after every single minister. If we succeed in stabilizing the coalition, then this government will continue to carry out what it undertook upon itself."

In recent days Sharon had been saying that he will personally seek to convince Gesher MK David Levy to join the coalition after all, despite the failure of previous efforts to bring him back to the government and the Likud.

He went so far as to warn Likud MKs over the weekend that this would carry the costly price tag of co-opting hundreds of Gesher delegates into the 2,700-member Likud central committee.

Sharon's statement is considered in the Likud to have been carefully coordinated and orchestrated with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who in recent days has also been saying he will not negotiate, haggle and compromise with every individual MK and faction.

Coalition sources maintain that Netanyahu and Sharon have in unison opted for what is regarded a a policy of scare tactics towards rebellious coalition partners, especially on the Right.

In essence, the far Right is being told that if they demand too much, then early elections will be called.

The result of these elections will be unpredictable, and the Right will be taking a gamble, Netanyahu and Sharon are saying.

At his press conference yesterday Sharon said he was sure Netanyahu would win any possible electoral showdown, "and then we would set up a new coalition, a stable one, and implement our policies with less difficulty." In conjunction with the early elections fever, former Tel Aviv mayor Ronni Milo yesterday inaugurated a new suite of offices for his as-yet-unlaunched party.

Milo failed to mention or name any of the political figures he has been claiming were interested in climbing on his bandwagon.

IAF attacks positions in Bekaa, breaks sound barrier over Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) – IDF warplanes attacked positions in the western Bekaa Valley yesterday. There were no reports of casualties.

Four jets fired 12 rockets at targets in the Wadi Zellya in the security zone's western sector. The IDF Spokesman said the pilots reported "good hits" and returned safely to their bases.

The raids came a few hours after Hizbullah shelled a South Lebanese Army outpost in Wadi Zellya.

A Hizbullah spokesman in Beirut, had no comment on the air raid, that came 95 minutes after two IDF jets flew low over Beirut, breaking the sound barrier. No damage was reported from the overflights, which were the first over the Lebanese capital since last Thursday, when IDF jets flew low over Beirut and its suburbs, causing widespread panic.

Yesterday's flights came a few hours after Hizbullah fighters exchanged artillery and rocket fire with soldiers in the zone. Hizbullah said its fighters hit a Merkava tank with rockets in Iklim Tuffah province. It gave no casualty figures.

The IDF did not confirm the report.

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Music flows in her blood

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Japanese pianist Noriko Ogawa, who divides her time between Tokyo and London, seems to have made a very conscientious choice regarding her life.

"I don't think I can be a mother and a concert pianist at the same time," she says. "Look, I have a younger sister who has a 21-month-old son and I miss him a lot, so imagine what it would be with my own son. I know it would actually be impossible.

"Japanese mothers are even worse than Jewish mothers," she adds with a smile. "If I would become a mother, I would have to stop playing at least for a while and I really don't see how it can happen. A woman has to make a decision and I made mine. Children need stability and my career cannot allow for that."

In fact, ever since she was a very little girl, Ogawa has made very clear choices.

"My mother was a piano teacher and so by the time I was four and a half, I played a lot of music just from memory. I wanted to play the piano and demanded it. No one could stop me but my mother tried all the time to make sure that I would also have a normal childhood. The difficult time was when I was a teenager and for a while I wasn't sure if music was going to be my life. I also liked psychology and psychiatry very much."

After a short period of deliberation, music won and Ogawa went to study at the Juilliard School in New York.

But in spite of these very clear choices, life wasn't always simple.

When she was studying at Juilliard, her teacher, Sasha Gornitsky, died and so, at the end of her studies, she had to return to Japan, in spite of wanting to continue studying in London with a new teacher she encountered briefly in New York, Benjamin Kaplan. "I fell in love with his lessons but there was no way I could afford to go to London."

Then, one day, Kaplan called her to make her an offer she could not refuse.

"He found some money through his Jewish connections and said I could come and study with him on condition that I enter the Leeds International Piano Competition."

Ogawa's former competition experience was far from pleasant. "I [had] participated in some competitions in Japan and then, when I was 22, I entered the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. It was an interesting experience but very tough for me. I played a great first round and everyone said that I would definitely win a prize. But that made me very nervous in the semifinal and I didn't play that well and was eliminated. It was just after my teacher died and I really had no strength to support myself."

This time, she realized she had nothing to lose. Ogawa went to London, prepared intensively for the competition and won third prize. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Ogawa is somewhat split between her Japanese and European self.

"In Japan, I'm Japanese and whenever I meet a Japanese person even outside Japan I immediately bow, quite unconsciously. But in London I'm very much European."

The split is not only personal, it is musical as well.

"Japanese music is quite different from Western classical music. Takemitsu is different because he's more Western. He grew up during the war and did not want to be traditional Japanese, so his music is less Japanese in style and form. But I recorded a disc of Japanese music by composers from the first part of the century and that music is totally different and actually not that easy for me. Because, in spite of the fact that I'm Japanese, my hands were trained to play Bach, Mozart and Beethoven and not Japanese pentatonic scales. This music and aesthetic sense is in my blood but it is definitely not in my fingers."

She adds: "I don't want to ignore [traditional Japanese] music because many Japanese musicians tend to do that. We should never ignore this music even if it is not accepted that well outside of Japan. After all, it's part of our heritage."

Ogawa already has seven discs to her credit on the BIS label and many more are expected to follow.

For a young pianist whose life is virtually first and foremost music, Ogawa finds occasional time for non-musical activities.

"I like cooking and I like eating. Naomi, the wife of my teacher, Benjamin Kaplan, is a great cook and so I know a lot of Jewish dishes and like them very much."

In her Israeli debut, Ogawa plays Chopin's Second Piano Concerto with the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba.



Ogawa: 'All my non-Japanese teachers were Jewish, so I know quite a lot about [Israeli] culture.'

"It's quite different from the other romantic concerti. The piano has a very important role and actually the orchestra players have to follow my rubato everywhere. They can never go on by themselves, hoping that I will follow like in the Tchaikovsky concerto, for example. Here I have to take so much initiative and they have to memorize what I'm doing."

Although she had never been to Israel before, Ogawa seemed to be quite familiar with the ambience of the land and to savor the sudden calmness which surrounded Beersheba as Shabbat was approaching.

"All my non-Japanese teachers were Jewish so I know quite a lot about the culture and I'm very excited to be here," she said.

Noriko Ogawa plays Chopin's Second Piano Concerto with the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba tonight and Thursday in Beersheba, tomorrow at the Tel Aviv Museum and Wednesday at the Ashkelon Heichal Hatarbut. All at 8:30 p.m.

Planets align to put romance into comedy

Movie Review



NEXT STOP WONDERLAND

★★★

Directed by Brad Anderson. Written by Brad Anderson and Lyn Vaus. Hebrew title: *Hatahana Haba'a Wonderland*. 102 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.
With Hope Davis, Alan Gelfant, Holland Taylor, Jose Zuniga, Phillip Seymour Hoffman

By Adina Hoffman

Young American director Brad Anderson's *Next Stop Wonderland* is yet another attempt to refit the romantic comedy genre for modern, insecure times. And like other recent films that take up a similar tack (*Sliding Doors*, *While You Were Sleeping*, *Sleepless in Seattle*), it rests on a basic paradox: the hipness and casual colloquialism of the movie's surface go hand in hand with its proudly starry-eyed faith in the most old-fashioned, superstitious notions – fate, destiny, and the sense that everyone has a soul mate, just waiting to be pitched into their arms on a crowded subway car.

Anderson's picture is perhaps a bit too emphatic in its treatment of these beliefs. We know almost from the outset that smart, skeptical night-nurse Erin (Hope Davis), a Harvard medical school dropout, is destined to be with Alan (Alan Gelfant), an earnest plumber from a working-class background, who's studying to be a marine biologist. Though the characters manage to almost cross paths at least a dozen times in the course of the film, Anderson and co-writer Lyn Vaus keep them apart and unaware of each other's existence until the final frames.

There's also something a tad coy about the irony of that set-up. Through a wearily exhaled puff of cigarette smoke, Erin states explicitly that she doesn't believe in fate – even as we, the audience, can see that she is wrong. Every cut and plot twist, after all, point to the fact that the planets have aligned in just such a way (or the scriptwriters have determined) that, when the time is right, she will meet and fall in love with the man of her dreams....

But the surprise is that, while *Wonderland* may suffer from a certain thematic overstatement, plot-level creakiness and studied yet sloppy cinematography (the faux verité style, all lurching handheld cameras and sudden zooms, sometimes gets on the nerves), it's also quite charming and fresh. Anderson works well at creating the quirky texture and pulse of believable conversation – in addition to co-writing and directing, he also edited the film in a breathless, associative way – and as Erin, Hope Davis is a delight: sad, sweet, knowing, vulnerable and tough all at once. Her very pale skin and long blonde hair give her a fragile look (not unlike Lewis Carroll's Alice) that's marvelously at odds with her strong character and sharp tongue. Erin is the sort of woman whom men are always condescending to with a wink and "smile, honey," while she's perfectly happy to frown.



Love blossoms when the time is right for Erin (Hope Davis).

In a series of very funny scenes, she "auditions" potential suitors. Her pushy mother (Holland Taylor) has, without her permission, taken out a personal ad which offers to all of the Boston Metropolitan area a rather wishful account of her daughter's attributes ("frisky, carefree, number one in fun," etc.). Out of a combination of desperation and curiosity, Erin (quiet, sarcastic, not much concerned with fun per se) decides to interview some of the men. With amazement, horror and sympathy intermingling, Davis does a terrific job of simply reacting to the warped personae the men put forward – they're all trying desperately to impress her and she's trying to make a game of this slightly humiliating process. She's wise enough to understand that most of them are not the jerks they seem to be, that there's something about this process that makes everyone seem miserable and fake.

And while she handles the comedy with great aplomb, Davis also brings a lovely melancholy to the part. Her Erin wants to find true love, of course, but she also likes – indeed often prefers – to be alone with her own thoughts, and the movie honors that desire. The mellow bossa-nova soundtrack and understated use of the Boston setting add to the picture's low-key sense of enchantment and hidden romantic possibility. Despite its several limitations, *Wonderland* is winning.

NEWS

of the muse

Smurfs move house

TV's *Smurfs*, or Dardasim as they're known locally, are moving to Keshet from the Children's Channel. The program will be broadcast as part of the Saturday youth program (8 –11 a.m.). Keshet has acquired 52 new chapters of the engaging little blue creatures who swept the world in the '80s. *Helen Kaye*

Student film wins in Italy

Daniel Syrkin's short film *And Now Rachmaninoff* has won the Cipputti Award at the 16th Turin Film Festival. The 12-minute drama tells the story of a Russian immigrant who works at a garbage dump, finds a transistor radio amid the rubbish and listens to Rachmaninoff. Syrkin made the film while he was a student at Tel Aviv University Film School. The Cipputti Award is given to the best film about the working world. *Helen Kaye*

Hadar Halevi back in town

Sensational Israeli mezzo-soprano Hadar Halevi, currently residing in Rome with her husband and two very young children, comes to Israel December 16-22 to perform Berlioz's *Les Nuits d'été* with the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Variety benefit to aid rape crisis center

Singers Riki Gal and Dana Berger and comedian Israel Katorza will appear at Kfar Menahem on December 23 at a benefit to raise money for a new rape crisis center to be established in the Lachish area. Tickets are NIS 70. Info: 051-509420 or (07) 687-4051. *Helen Kaye*

IPO announces classical pops series

Like any average American symphony orchestra yearning to enlarge its audiences, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra continues its series of popular concerts titled Classic and Different. The upcoming five-concert series opens February 27 with a Gershwin evening conducted by IPO associate conductor Arthur Post. The series includes an evening with Esther Ofarim (April 11), a program with popular Greek singer Glykeria (May 30), an evening of Chaplin films accompanied by live music (June 20) and a program of Broadway musicals selections (July 12). *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Young Philharmonic to play charity concert

Businessman Amos Talmon, 46, will conduct the Young Philharmonic Orchestra in a special charity concert December 23 at the Noga Theater in Jaffa. All proceedings from this special event, which includes music by Verdi, Schubert and Khachaturian, will go to Kav Lahaim ("A Lifeline") which helps children suffering from cancer and other diseases. Talmon and his wife have also donated money to establish a special scholarship with the orchestra for young musicians. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Israel Sinfonietta wins in the periphery

After returning from a very successful European concert tour, the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba was notified that it is this year's recipient of the Cylinder Award given by Omanut La'am for an organization which is doing considerable work in the periphery. The award will be presented in a special event on December 20. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Salzman cited for contribution to Israeli music

Israeli pianist Pnina Salzman is the recipient of this year's Frank Peleg Award given by the Minister of Culture, Education and Sport to local performing musicians. Salzman receives the award for her contribution to the development of musical life here and for representing Israel all over the world. The NIS 50,000 award will be presented in a special ceremony on December 31. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Masterclasses in Tel Aviv

The Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv (Shtriker St.) has announced a year-long program of masterclasses by leading Israeli and international musicians. The classes start tomorrow with percussionist Evelyn Glennie, who will be followed later in the month by cellist Uzi Wiesel and pianists Itamar Golan and Daniel Hexter. The masterclasses are aimed at the academy's students and young musicians from all over the country. They are open for observation for the general public. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Masterclasses in Jerusalem

The Jerusalem Music Center is offering masterclasses/workshops presented by several musicians for larger ensembles. From December 27 to 31 there will be a contemporary music workshop with members of the Ensemble InterContemporain from Paris and next month soprano Evelyn Tubb, lutenist Anthony Rolley and trumpet player Crispian Steele Perkins will present a special early-music vocal workshop. Later in the season violinist Miriam Fried, the Ysaye Quartet and baroque flutist Michel Schneider will also present masterclasses. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

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Agenda for the center

The major parties, Labor and Likud, are looking increasingly like characters in Dr. Seuss' parable of the Sneetches, in which rival groups are indistinguishable except for who has a star on his back and who does not.

Though proud heirs to Israel's two principal political traditions, neither major party has translated well into the current post-ideological era, thereby leaving a vacuum in what is confusingly called "the center." In fact, the center is either crowded or empty, depending on how one looks at it. On the one hand, both major parties are promising peace with security on the diplomatic front and free markets with a conscience economically.

Both are groping for the political "golden mean," as represented by President Bill Clinton, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and now perhaps German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

On the other hand, talk of Ehud Barak's changing his party's name to "New Labor," or Binyamin Netanyahu moving his party squarely behind territorial compromise, provide proof of the collapse of the old ideologies, but not of their replacement. As the major parties scramble for the center in the old debates between them, they have failed to develop an agenda that includes new debates that are rising in the public mind.

It is not surprising, therefore, that despite the "center" being already crowded by two major parties, the possibility of a third major party is also gaining ground. Former Tel Aviv mayor Ronni Milo was the first to throw his hat in the ring, but his candidacy has been tainted by anti-religious rhetoric, and has failed to galvanize the forces dissatisfied with the existing parties.

Last week, former chief of General Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak took his first stride on to this shifting political landscape by opening an office in Tel Aviv and, reportedly, moving up his full military retirement date to two weeks from now. Though Shahak is prevented by law from running for office until after a 100-day "cooling off" period, his potential entrance into politics is already sending shock-waves through the system.

Though polls indicate that Shahak would easily beat Netanyahu in a head-to-head ballot, his popularity is entirely untested in the political arena. Just as Barak, before his retirement, was seen as the savior of the Labor Party (and General Colin Powell polled extremely well in the US), it remains to be seen whether Shahak's popularity would survive the mud-slinging of an election campaign.

At this point, the most telling thing about the Shahak phenomenon is that he is not expected to join either Labor or Likud, but rather form a new party with Likud MK Dan Meridor. As this new party gels quietly behind the scenes, political observers are already wondering whether it will go the way of the last "centrist" flash-in-the-pan – the Democratic Movement for Change of 1977 – or whether it could even take the whole pie.

The DMC, led by the former general and archeologist Yigael Yadin, won a phenomenal 15 seats in the 1977 elections, which also brought Menachem Begin's Likud to power for the first time. But Yadin's party, which ran on the good reputations of its members rather than any particular ideology, quickly fell apart over whether to stay within the Begin government. By the next election, the DMC had almost disappeared.

The question is whether there is any more room today for a third major party than there was 20 years ago. Like the DMC, if there is a new Meridor-Shahak party, it is expected to run largely on personality rather than platform. Three factors will make the next election more personality-based than any before: Netanyahu's abrasive style, the convergence on the issue of peace and security, and the new direct election law. But what would a third party have to offer besides fresh faces and freedom from the taint of the major parties? What would hold it together in the months after the election?

If a third party is to be more than just another contestant in a personality contest, it will have to stand for something more than a vague appeal for honesty, integrity, and competence. The real potential for a lasting contribution lies in filling the agenda left behind by both Labor and Likud.

In this respect it is encouraging to note the activities of the unofficial kernel of a potential third party, the Yeruham Group. Founded by Third Way MK Alex Lubotzky, Yad Ben-Zvi director Zvi Zameret, and former deputy chief of General Staff Matan Vilna'i, the group has held conferences around the country on issues that the major parties have failed to address creatively. The first three conferences dealt with development towns, reexamining the division between religious and secular schools, and minimizing the social dislocation of privatization. The next two conferences will deal with the plague of deaths on the roads and the financing of tuition and the university system.

Solving practical problems may lack the drama of the historic clash of ideologies, but it is what is missing from the major parties' agenda, whose ideological sails hang listlessly in any case. A serious agenda could go beyond personality to distinguish a third party in the public eye and, even more importantly, keep it together and directed after election day.

US justice on trial

IRWIN COTLER

The commitment by President Bill Clinton to "seriously review" the case of Jonathan Pollard should be anchored in two basic principles: first, that Jonathan Pollard committed a serious offense for which he deserved to be punished, and for which he has expressed remorse; and second, that Pollard is being punished for a crime he did not commit, and is being disproportionately punished for the one he did commit.

In a word – and as the indictment reveals – Jonathan Pollard was charged, and subsequently convicted, of one count only: of conveying classified defense information to a foreign government, in this instance Israel.

However, he was never charged, nor convicted, of the crime of treason; nor was there anything in the indictment to suggest that he intended any harm to the US, or sought to benefit anyone other than Israel.

For his promised review of Pollard's case, Clinton has invited submissions from his accusers but excluded any parallel defense submissions

Yet "prosecutorial" sources in the CIA, and the Defense, State and Justice departments over the years have continued to maintain that Pollard was charged with, and convicted of, treason, while media reports – often coincident with presidential reviews – have sustained and amplified this false and misleading allegation.

Regrettably, however, Clinton has invited submissions from these agencies only – the "prosecutorial" group – while excluding any parallel or prospective defense or exculpatory submissions on behalf of Pollard.

This is tantamount to impeachment proceedings in the US House of Representatives – let alone the court of public opinion – hearing only the prosecutor's report from Kenneth Starr, and no representations or defense on behalf of the president. Such a process would be neither serious nor fair.

Moreover, this "prosecutorial" group has not only misrepresented the case against Pollard – which would have been bad enough – but it has obscured, if not covered up, its own denials of Pollard's right to due process. These include:

• the government's breach of its plea-bargain agreement with Pollard, thereby denying him a fair trial and proportionate punishment;

• the ex-parte submission by former secretary of defense Casper Weinberger at sentencing, accusing Pollard of "treason," thereby denying Pollard the right to a fair hearing, and whose full contents – never revealed – might prove more incriminating to Weinberger than to Pollard;

• "prosecutorial" demands that Pollard never be released – by presidential clemency or otherwise – thereby ignoring the fact that Pollard has now entered his fourteenth year of imprisonment for an offense whose median sentence is from two to four years, and constituting a clear denial of Pollard's right to equality before the law;

• CIA accusations over the years that Pollard had compromised "sources" and "methods" in Eastern Europe – an allegation that was never part of Pollard's indictment and for which no evidence had ever been adduced – but whose continued spread implicates Pollard in the deaths of at least a dozen US informants in the former Soviet Union.

This last accusation is particularly noteworthy because it is a case study of both CIA misrepresentation and cover-up. For while the CIA was accusing Pollard of this most egregious of charges, it knew – as it later became publicly known – that Aldrich Ames, the head of the CIA's Soviet/Eastern Europe Division, had himself been both the architect of those treasonable acts, and the original source of the disinformation against Pollard on those charges.

ONLY space constraints prevent the full rendition of a pattern of American intelligence blunders metamorphosing as false accusations against Pollard, as occurred once again with inspired leaks by "sources" in the intelligence community on the eve of Clinton's visit to Israel.

In short, if Clinton's review is to be serious, it must be fair; and if it is to be fair, Pollard should, at the very least, be granted the right to a full answer and reply – the right to confront his accusers – the right to rebut adverse evidence and to adduce his own evidence and argument.

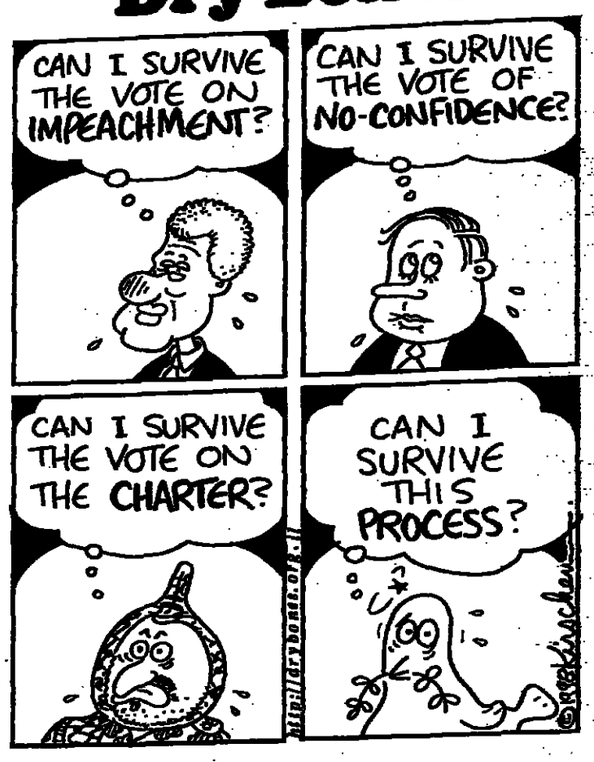
The characterization of the Pollard case as "a complete and gross miscarriage of justice" by United States Federal Appellate Court Judge Stephen Williams (Pollard's appeal was rejected 2-1 on procedural grounds) should not now characterize a serious presidential review.

The president is the best witness of the dangers of an ex-parte review, based only on "prosecutorial" allegations that may be false, incomplete or misleading.

American justice – not just Jonathan Pollard – is on trial.

The writer is professor of law at McGill University and an international human rights lawyer.

Dry Bones



Palestine will not be pareve

EFRAIM INBAR

President Bill Clinton's visit to Gaza is an important step in making the Palestinian state a fait accompli. This inevitable outcome, however, is not necessarily a desirable one.

The embryonic Palestinian state has great potential for becoming a source of regional instability, a fact which most of the world, including, unfortunately, the US, seems unaware of.

It is a fallacy to believe that a Palestinian state will automatically become a responsible member of the international community. We know that many states, such as Iraq, Libya or Serbia, are aggressive and constitute a source of regional troubles.

Indeed, the chances that the Palestinians would create an aggressive, revisionist state are very high. There are already clear indications that Palestinian appetites will not be satisfied with the concessions Israel is willing to make.

For example, 80 percent of the Palestinians have rejected even the extreme dovish Beilin-Abu Mazen Plan, while they continue to insist on having Jerusalem as their capital, which goes against the backbone of Israeli consensus. The lack of territorial contiguity between Gaza and the West Bank will similarly be a constant source of friction between Israel and Palestine, as well as a pretext for territorial demands.

There are serious doubts as to the ripeness of Palestinian society for reconciliation with Israel. It is not at all clear whether the present Palestinian leadership is willing or able to convince its society that a "historical compromise with the Zionists" which allots them maximum 20% of the land they initially coveted is an acceptable solution.

According to a 1995 Palestinian poll, almost two-thirds of the Arab inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza refuse to accept Israel's right to exist. Arafat has clearly demonstrated his reluctance to combat Hamas and other rejectionists in the territories, precisely because he realizes the considerable support these groups draw (20-30% according to various estimates).

Believing a Palestinian state will contribute to regional stability demonstrates plain ignorance of Middle Eastern realities

Unquestionably, there has been a trend of moderation in Palestinian public opinion in recent years, but it has a long way to go before reaching the point of convergence with what Israelis think is fair and acceptable in terms of security. Therefore, any political settlement in the near future will leave the Palestinians dissatisfied, hoping to get more in the future. Dissatisfied political entities are a source for trouble.

A NEWBORN Palestinian state will inevitably conform to the rules of behavior characteristic of this region. This means it will resort to violence to achieve political objectives, a regional pattern reinforced by past Palestinian behavior and present predilection.

In a recent book, the Palestinian intellectual Yezid Sayigh argues that violence has been the defining experience of the Palestinian national movement and the organizing concept around which its nationalism evolved.

We know that Arafat has not refrained from eulogizing perpetrators of terrorist acts against Israel in the post-Oslo period. He allowed his soldiers to shoot at the IDF in September 1996 and continuously threatens that unless he gets what he wants, violence will erupt.

In contrast to the populations of Western countries, Palestinians, like other Middle Eastern populations, support violence. According to a Palestinian poll conducted two weeks after the Wye Memorandum was signed, 41% of the Palestinians still supported use of force against Israeli targets (only about a 10% reduction from a pre-Wye poll). There is no reason to believe that a Palestinian state will be more pareve than any other Mideastern political entity.

The security risks of Palestinian statehood are considerable. Palestinians can easily disconnect, by small amounts of lightly equipped infantry, Israel's main transport arteries and most of its airfields. In a time of war this could be devastating.

Also of concern is that the PLO threatened Jordan's Hashemite regime in the past and could do so again in the future. Most estimates agree that over 60% of the kingdom's population is of Palestinian origin. A Palestinian state would definitely galvanize nationalistic feelings among the Palestinians in Jordan, who could be radicalized by the establishment of a Palestinian state so close to their homes.

Jordan's strategic location is pivotal to regional stability, serving as a buffer between Israel and Iraq, and between Saudi Arabia and Syria. The elimination of a pro-Western Jordan would leave Israel, as well as Saudi Arabia, without a buffer vis-a-vis the radicals and is inimical to Western interests.

The Americans and Europeans fool themselves in believing that a Palestinian state will be their friend. Demonstrations in support of Iraq take place frequently in Palestinian towns and very often American flags are burned. If Russia returns to the Middle East, Arafat will be among the first to welcome the Yevgeny Primakovs, just as he supported the communist coup against Gorbachev.

The Palestinian state could well become a base for anti-Western international terrorism, serving precisely the same function as their mini-state in Lebanon (1975-82).

The establishment of a Palestinian state is imminent. Believing it will contribute to peace and regional stability demonstrates plain ignorance of Middle Eastern realities. What responsible leaders like Clinton should do is to think how to minimize its potential dangers and act accordingly.

The writer is director of the Begin-Sadat (BESA) Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

A difficult but winnable battle

YOSEF GOELL

The High Court of Justice, whose 11 justices ruled unanimously last week that the long-standing political deal giving military deferments to tens of thousands of real and fictitious yeshiva students was patently illegal, deserves the public's heartfelt thanks.

What began under prime minister David Ben-Gurion over 45 years ago as a short-sighted concession to Agudat Yisrael that related to only a few hundred young men has since burgeoned into a monster that is poisoning the country's entire social atmosphere.

The poison that has been seeping into our souls from years of such cynical groveling before the haredim was what was really behind the recent university students' strike. The students' only legitimate case was that the country they had served so devotedly was diverting billions of shekels to support their draft-dodging colleagues in the yeshivas while denying them even a fraction of such support.

The strike failed largely because the student leaders decided – misguidedly, for tactical reasons – not to aim their protest at the haredim, who control the Knesset Finance Committee and have a chilling influence in the Netanyahu-Neeman Treasury.

The High Court decision comes at a time when over 40 percent of draft-age young people do not serve. Close to half of this number are young Israeli Arabs, which may be understandable as long as our war with their Palestinian and Arab kinsmen continues, but is nonetheless a serious problem.

The rest are mainly young men and women who claim exemption on the basis of their religious affiliation.

Our military planners must be made to understand that the growing rate of draft dodging and the seething resentment which fed the students' strike, could engender a public atmosphere in which it becomes bon ton not to serve and that those who do are *freierim* ("suckers"). In such an atmosphere there will be damn few *freierim* left to defend the country. SOME media commentators faulted the High Court for displaying weak knees in failing to spell out what policy should supplant the practice it ruled illegal, and for giving the politicians a year to hammer out some solution. I do not agree: for the situation from which an acceptable alternative must be forged is so complex as to defy solution by mere judicial fiat.

The problem is not just the institutionalized massive haredi draft dodging. The real problem is that the haredi educational system has taught generations of its young people to abhor the Zionist state and to shudder at the very thought of serving its ends.

The IDF commanders know full well that a massive influx into the army of young haredim in their present state of mind would be nothing short of a catastrophe.

There is no way in which young haredim – or young Arabs, for that matter – can be forced to serve in the military given their current socialization, although young people from these sectors should be encouraged to volunteer for service, and the IDF should go to great lengths to accommodate them.

Restoring a basic sense of fairness, given today's political and social realities, would require at the very least that all young people who refuse to serve pay the equivalent of several years' income to provide financial support for those who do serve, and that senior public positions, all teaching posts and those in the public media be reserved only for those who have done their national duty.

Even more essential – although undoubtedly more difficult, politically – is that the same Zionist Israel which quite correctly refuses to fund a Hamas-oriented education for Israeli Arab children by our home-grown Islamic Movement, also deny any funding to unabashedly anti-Zionist and anti-Israeli haredi education.

The political struggle to restore the Zionist primacy to our public sphere will take much more than a year, given the process of degeneration has been going on for over two decades.

It is, however, a necessary and winnable battle.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WELCOME GUEST

Sir, – Maybe more than any other American president during the short history of our state's existence, Bill Clinton has been a great friend to Israel, working tirelessly and relentlessly to bring peace to our region and supporting Israel in every possible way – through funding, political aid, military collaboration and with leadership in sustaining the peace process between us and our neighbors.

He has shown goodwill, courage and a determination to further our cause that has often been greater than that exhibited by some of our own leaders. Despite his heavy schedule as leader of the greatest superpower in the world, he has taken his time to deal, again and again, with our problems and to try and find a solution.

He has never let us down. Over the past two-and-a-half years in particular, he has shown superior judgment and foresight and prevented us from sinking into the abyss of our own narrow-mindedness and petty inner-quarrelling, when our very existence is at stake.

I was appalled and frankly dumbfounded to hear in the past few days some voices in our parliament expressing opinions against the president's visit, suggesting that it was not welcome. I think this is an outrage that should not be tolerated.

Even in an outspoken society like ours, there has to be a limit to what people in public life, and particularly in government, can allow themselves. Some dignity, humility and decent manners must be kept.

President Clinton has helped bring peace and comfort to so many regions in the world, and especially to ours, that we should all feel deeply indebted to him forever. He will always be a most welcome guest in Israel.

TEDDY KOLLEK
Jerusalem.

PLO COVENANT

Sir, – Ben Lynfield, in "Dusty document, or living covenant?" (December 11), mentioned that the Palestine National Council canceled the PLO covenant clauses that call for Israel's annihilation when it met in April, 1996. Lynfield characterized those who raised doubts about the cancellation as "right wing."

Our news agency, which dispatched a Palestinian TV crew to cover the PNC event, holds the video of the event, which shows that the PLO Covenant was not amended then. Yasser Arafat spokesman Marwan Kanfani also stated, on that video, that no amendments had been agreed to at the PNC session.

The continuing confusion concerning that PNC session was because the resolution which had been approved by the US and Israeli governments to amend the charter was never voted on. Reporters were under the mistaken notion that this is what passed the PNC. The resolution adopted at the April, 1996 PNC session was to establish a committee to consider changes in the covenant. That committee was never even convened.

Far from being an issue of "right wingers," the academic who documented revealed the fact that the PNC did not change the PLO Covenant was Hebrew University Professor Yehoshua Porat, an expert on Palestinian nationalism, who ran as a 1992 candidate for the left-wing Meretz party.

The PNC convenes today. Will it do what the PNC did not do in 1996?

DAVID BEDEN, MSW
Media Research Analyst,
Bureau Chief,
Israel Resource News Agency.
Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On December 14, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that Arab leaders were rebuked by the High Commissioner because of their strong language. He had, however, promised them steps against illegal immigration, the imposition of the Protection of Cultivators Ordinance to solve their land problems, and the government's determination to implement first the new Municipal Law and then the Legislative Council.

50 years ago: On December 14, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the Transjordanian government unanimously approved the policy aimed at the unification of Transjordan with the Palestinian territory, currently occupied by the Arab Legion. Egypt had officially denounced this plan.

25 years ago: On December 14, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported Prime Minister Golda Meir's announcement that Israel must be ready to say "no" at the planned Geneva Peace Conference, not only to the Arabs, but also to "Israel's most faithful friend," an apparent reference to the US. She expected the conference would be very difficult, but Israel was going there with an honest desire to achieve peace.

Alexander Zvielli

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Senate Rules

If Impeachment Seems Strange, Just Wait for the Trial

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

WASHINGTON

PICTURE this for high drama:

All 100 senators are in their seats. In the well of the Senate is a defense table. President Clinton may or may not be at the table, but his lawyers are, on the edge of their chairs. Facing them, at a prosecution table, are Representative Henry J. Hyde of Illinois and a few of his Republican colleagues.

High on the dais, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist leans forward in the presiding officer's chair and reads solemnly into the microphone from a slip of paper handed up to him by the Senate parliamentarian: "Senators, how say you? Is the respondent, William Jefferson Clinton, guilty or not guilty? The clerk will call the roll."

One after another, as their names are called alphabetically, the senators rise behind their desks and utter the first words they have spoken about the matter in public session since the impeachment trial began. No speeches. No explanation. Just "guilty" or "not guilty."

That is the way the trial will end — probably sometime next summer — if a majority of the members of the House of Representatives vote this week to impeach the President on the accusations recommended by the House Judiciary Committee, and if the Senate goes forward with a trial.

Many people in and around Congress think it will never get that far — that somehow, though no one can say just how, the Senate will avert a drawn-out legal process that could tie up the country for months.

That might seem logical, since no one imagines that the Senate will come close to obtaining the two-thirds majority needed to convict the President and remove him from office. But others — not just Republican opponents of the President but also steadfast guardians of the Senate's prerogatives like Robert C. Byrd, Democrat of West Virginia — believe that the Senate would be obligated to try the President if the House voted to impeach him.

Besides, nothing about an impeachment trial would be logical, by ordinary legal standards. This trial would be part law and part politics, governed partly by the Constitution, partly by ancient Senate rules and partly by the seat of the pants. In the history of the nation, there have been only 13 such trials (one of a President), and only 7 convictions (all of Federal judges). The only trial of a President, in which Andrew Johnson was acquitted by one vote, was 130 years ago.

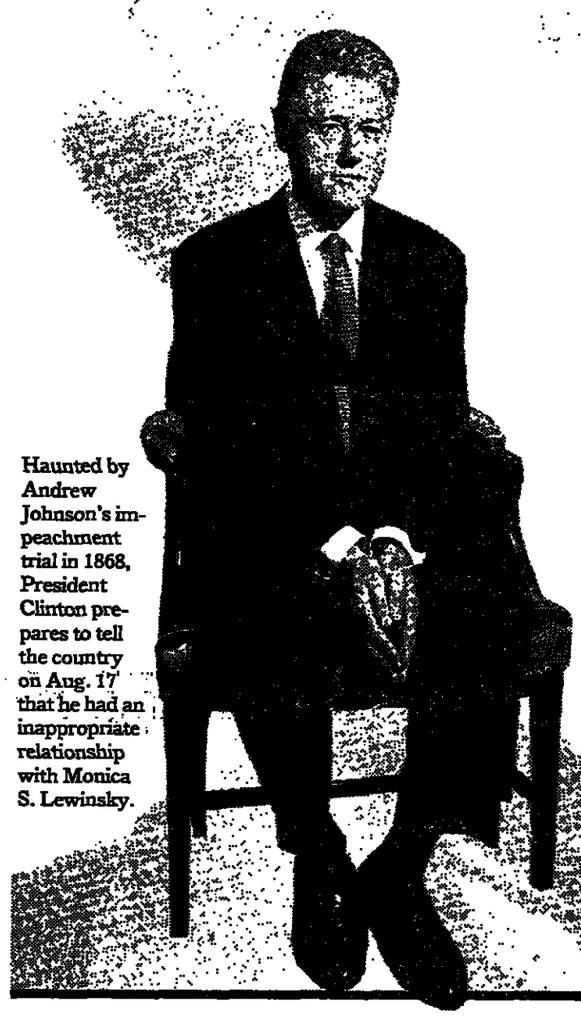
In all of academia, in all the library stacks, in all the cubicles and carrels of the Capitol, there is no reference book that spells out what the impeachment trial of a President would look like in 1999, and there is no person who considers himself or herself an absolute authority.

"The most important thing to know about a Senate trial of a President is how much we do not know," said Walter Dellinger, a constitutional scholar and former acting Solicitor General. "We don't know whether it can be confined in a rational way or whether it will get out of control and take on a life of its own."

Consider these anomalies:

¶The rules — 26 of them — would essentially be those written for the Johnson trial in 1868. In that era, there were only 54 senators, in session only a small part of the year and working with quill pens under gas lamps. But Senate rules are so hard to change that it is unlikely

Continued on Page 10



Haunted by Andrew Johnson's impeachment trial in 1868, President Clinton prepares to tell the country on Aug. 17 that he had an inappropriate relationship with Monica S. Lewinsky.

Doug Mills/Agence France-Presse

Giving Till It Hurts

With So Many Presents, There's Angst in Toyland

By DOUGLAS MARTIN

HALF-CRAZED, shrieking children rip into present after present, tossing toys right, left and up in the air. Suddenly, they are done. Some are still wild-eyed, but some are dazed as they stare at their seasonal loot. Soon, all are playing merrily with the empty boxes as if they are the best toys of all.

America's children are being buried in an avalanche of toys. It's partly a function of demographics: There are fewer children and more adults to dote on them. But television's ceaseless shilling of merchandise fuels the fire. So do guilt on the part of working, often absentee parents; clever marketing of toys as learning tools, and the inescapable realization that a kid transfixed by a toy is a kid temporarily not bothering a parent.

"Enough, already!" is the cry of a growing chorus of professionals dealing with children. They fear children are being simultaneously overstimulated and desensitized by a deluge of misguided love.

"Even grandparents are becoming almost hesitant to give their grandchildren toys," said Dr. Karen Nesbitt Shanor, a clinical psychologist in Washington, D.C. "They see the children have so many toys and that everybody's overwhelmed by the situation."

Dr. Shanor, who next year will publish a book on the development of children's brains called "The Emerging Mind," said too much gift-generated stimulation can hurt learning by decreasing concentration. Moreover, she said, the stimulation itself feeds the need for ever more stimulation as a result of chemical changes in the mind. Ultimately, such an addiction to stimulation can contribute to such syndromes as attention deficit disorder. "It's a vicious cycle," Dr. Shanor said.

Kids might be pardoned for seeing a different sort of viciousness. After lecturing that candy rots teeth and playground see-saws are unsafe and peanut butter sandwiches are dangerous, the grown-ups are now plotting to take away Christmas.



Michelle V. Agins/The New York Times

Julia Snider, 4, amid Blue the puppy paraphernalia at F. A. O. Schwarz last week, pondered her next move.

But too many gifts can affect a child's emerging sense of self worth, said Dr. Paul J. Ciborowski, a professor in the counseling department of Long Island University. Children can become confused if their value seems to be measured in things, he said. In the worst cases, a child could begin measuring his worth by how much money is spent on him, Professor Ciborowski added.

"A genuine expression of caring is very important in terms of the ego development of young children," he said. "Toys are only one of a number of ways to share and express love."

NOBODY blames children, but almost all experts fault parents for the toy explosion.

"Many parents communicate feelings by giving gifts rather than by direct communication of their feelings," said Dr. Kenneth Skodnek, a child psychiatrist at Nassau County Medical Center. "It's almost as if materialism becomes the matrix of social relations — our sense of self esteem and our relation to others."

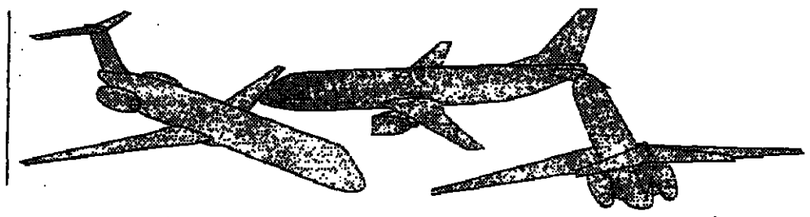
Adults, the experts say, should simply take a firm stand. "Children need adults to tell them they've had too much candy," said Dr. Gail Saltz, a psychologist at New York Cornell Medical Center. "And if the adult is the cause of too much candy, it's really a bad situation."

Common sense, without shades of Ebenezer Scrooge, is the goal. One of Dr. Shanor's suggestions is to parcel gifts out over longer periods; she even suggests putting away all but a couple of gifts after they are opened.

Dr. Nancy Brush, a psychology professor at Fordham University, says Hanukkah with its eight days of gift-giving, or celebrating the 12 Days of Christmas, can

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Independent Counsels
The law blows a fuse.
By David Johnston **11**



Look! Up in the Sky!
Those aren't birds. Or superman.
10-11

Latin Lovers
Spain to Chile: Don't look at me.
By Alan Riding **12**

The Nation

Gridlock in the Wild Blue Yonder

ON Dec. 2, a US Airways passenger jet landing at La Guardia Airport came within 50 feet of a corporate plane preparing to take off. It was one of three times in the Northeast this month in which planes came too close together, which might lead peak-season passengers to wonder what's going on up there. A lot: air traffic nationally and in the Northeast has never been more congested.

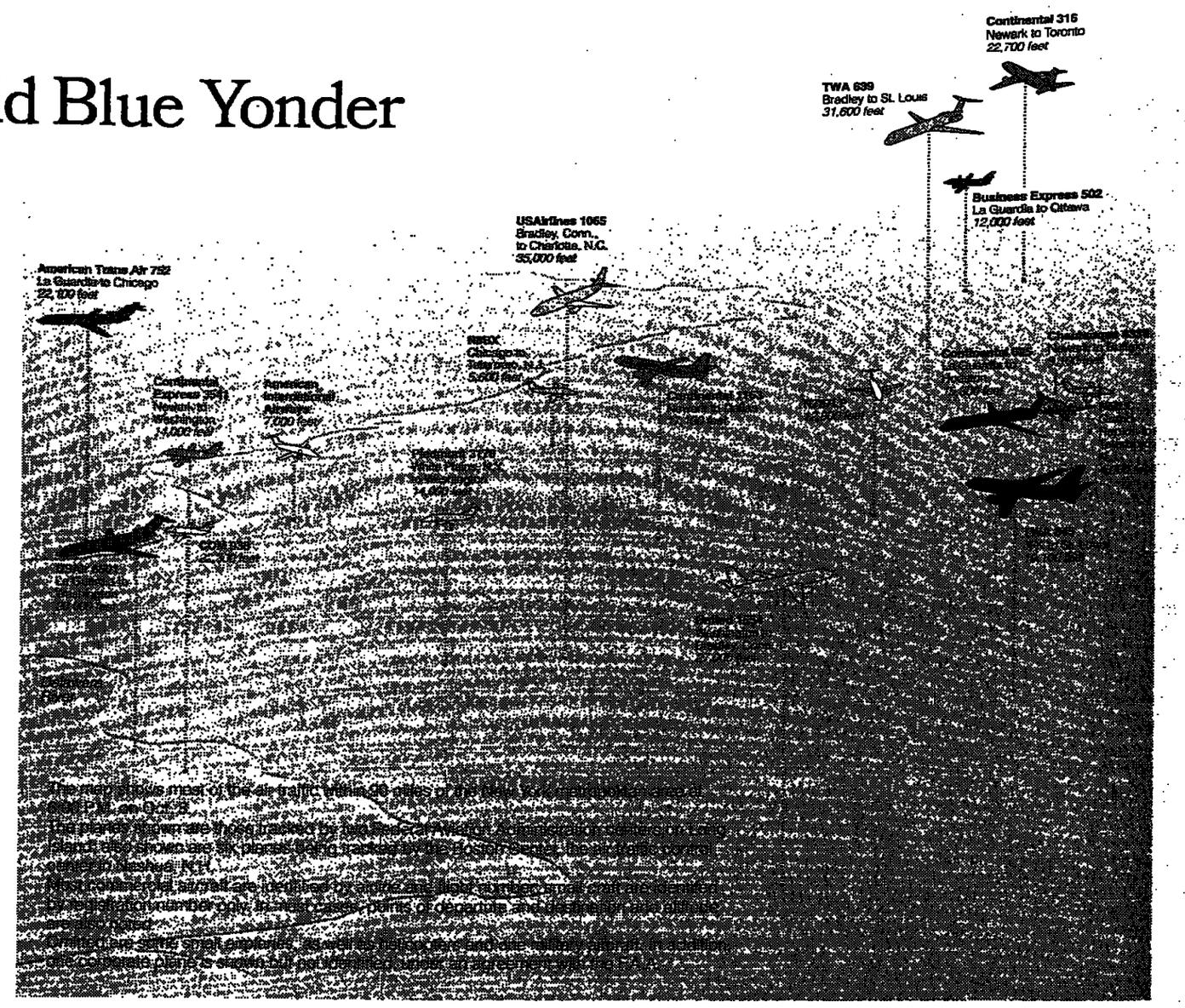
In 1987, the National Geographic Society mapped the skies above New York on a typical afternoon for its "Historical Atlas of the United States" and identified about 45 aircraft flying below 14,000 feet, which included most planes headed to or from the three major airports. Now, The New York Times has taken a more panoramic snapshot that shows far more traffic overall.

The map at right shows the New York region's traffic at 6 P.M. on Oct. 8. The planes at lower altitudes were under the control of the New York Terminal Radar Approach Control, in Westbury, L.I.; the ones at higher altitudes were directed by the New York Air Route Traffic Control Center, in Ronkonkoma, L.I.

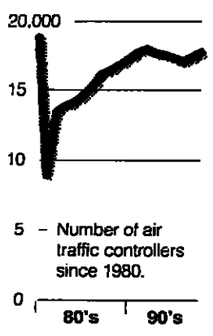
Technology has helped air traffic controllers keep pace with greater congestion, but a controller's job remains highly stressful. Controllers complain about unreliable and aging equipment; experts say the Federal Aviation Administration must find new technology or face gridlock.

If the controllers make a mistake or their computers break down, an onboard system can warn passenger plane pilots of impending collisions. Last week, a British Caledonian Boeing 767 and a Delta L-1011, both bound for Europe, came within a mile of each other over Long Island, apparently because of computer error, but their pilots were warned by the on-board anti-collision systems.

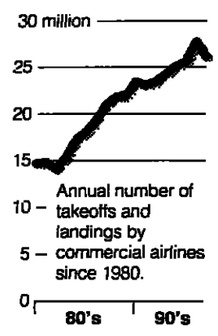
MATTHEW L. WALD



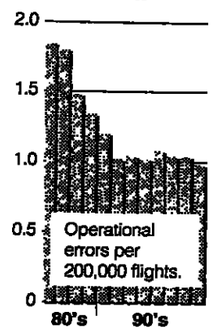
DESPITE FEWER CONTROLLERS ...



... AND MORE PLANES IN THE AIR ...



... THE SKIES HAVE BECOME SAFER



Source. Federal Aviation Administration

Senate Rules

If Impeachment Seems Strange, Just Wait for the Trial

Trial by Senate

YEAR	OFFICIAL	POSITION	OUTCOME
1798-99	**William Blount**	U.S. Senator	CHARGES DISMISSED
1804	**John Pickering**	District Court Judge	REMOVED FROM OFFICE
1805	**Samuel Chase**	Supreme Court Justice	ACQUITTED
1830-31	**James H. Peck**	District Court Judge	ACQUITTED
1862	**West H. Humphreys**	District Court Judge	REMOVED FROM OFFICE
1868	**Andrew Johnson**	President	ACQUITTED
1876	**William Belknap**	Secretary of War	ACQUITTED
1903	**Charles Swayne**	District Court Judge	ACQUITTED
1912-13	**Robert W. Archbald**	Commerce Court Judge	REMOVED FROM OFFICE
1926	**George W. English**	District Court Judge	CHARGES DISMISSED
1933	**Harold Louderback**	District Court Judge	ACQUITTED
1936	**Halsted L. Ritter**	District Court Judge	REMOVED FROM OFFICE
1986	**Harry E. Claiborne**	District Court Judge	REMOVED FROM OFFICE
1988	**Alcee L. Hastings**	District Court Judge	REMOVED FROM OFFICE
1989	**Walter L. Nixon Jr.**	District Court Judge	REMOVED FROM OFFICE

Source. Congressional Quarterly's Guide to Congress

Continued from Page 9

these would be tinkered with in any meaningful way.

¶Under the Constitution, the Chief Justice must preside. (The Founding Fathers realized it would be a conflict of interest for the Vice President to preside over the Senate in an impeachment trial of a President.) The Chief Justice could be overruled on any matter by a majority vote of the senators. But if a tie vote occurred, he would cast the tie-breaker.

¶Under the Senate rules, the senators, who think nothing of speaking for hours on the most mundane topic, would not be allowed to speak during the trial. To question a witness, they could pass a note to the Chief Justice, who would pose the question.

¶All witnesses would testify and all evidence would be presented in public — presumably on television, no matter how salacious and how embarrassing. But the senators' deliberations would be in closed session. No senator would be allowed to speak for more than 10 minutes in these sessions on preliminary matters. When the final verdict was debated, 15 minutes would be allotted each senator, again behind locked doors.

SENATOR TRENT LOTT of Mississippi, the Republican leader, insists he is making no plans for a trial, and there is no evidence to the contrary. To plan before the House votes to impeach, he says, would be presumptuous.

But hardly anyone who has examined the impeachment process believes that a trial could be concluded in "three days to three weeks," as Senator Lott suggested in a recent television interview. Alan I. Baron, a lawyer here who was special impeachment counsel during the trials of two Federal judges in the 1980's, figures that if the Senate takes up the case in early January, a trial might be completed by late summer.

"We are," Mr. Baron cautions, "on the edge of a real seismic event."

President Clinton would have to be given a month or two to prepare for the trial, Mr. Baron said. Then, he said, there would be months of pre-trial activity.

The first question to be answered would be whether a vote of impeachment by the lame-duck 105th Congress would be sufficient for the Senate to conduct a trial in the new Congress or whether the new House (with a smaller Republican majority) would have to impeach the President all over again.

Chief Justice Rehnquist would rule first on this. His ruling would be subject to reversal by the senators. Because this is a constitutional question, the matter would doubtless go next to the Supreme Court — where the Chief Justice, of course, presides.

(Paradoxically, Chief Justice Rehnquist comes as close as anyone in the country to being an expert on impeachment trials. In 1992, he published a book, "Grand Inquests," on the two most famous impeachment trials, both of which ended in acquittal — the Johnson trial in 1868 and the trial of Justice Samuel Chase of the Supreme Court in 1805.)

Next, motions on other questions would arise. What standard of proof would be required for conviction — "beyond a reasonable doubt" as in a criminal trial; "preponderance of evidence," as in a civil trial, or something completely different? What is the definition of perjury, the accusation in the first two articles of impeachment recommended last week by the House Judiciary Committee? What rules of evidence would apply? For instance, would hearsay evidence be allowed? Would the President's lawyers and senior advisers be protected from testifying by attorney-client privilege and executive privilege? If misconduct by the independent counsel, Kenneth W. Starr, can be proved, should the case be dismissed?

To prepare for a Clinton trial, scores of witnesses would have to be interviewed and documentary evidence would have to be reviewed. The prosecution could not rely, as the House Judiciary Committee did, solely on Mr. Starr's investigation.

In some respects, the trial would be similar to those in courtrooms. There would be opening statements, presentation of witnesses and evidence by both sides, cross-examinations, rebuttals and closing arguments. The witnesses — Monica S. Lewinsky, Linda R. Tripp and the rest — would testify in public, under oath, and would be subjected for the first time to cross-examination. The prosecution would be supervised by a team of Representatives, called House managers, led by Mr. Hyde. They would function like district attorneys who oversee cases but leave the courtroom work to assistants. The organization of the prosecution's case, questioning of witnesses and opening and closing arguments presumably would be handled by prosecutors hired from the outside. Mr. Clinton's defense would also be conducted by a team of hired lawyers. Because his defense in an impeachment trial is one of the President's official duties, the cost would be borne by the Government. The President could choose whether to appear at the trial and whether to testify himself.

A big difference from a courtroom trial, of course, would be the nature of the jury. Senators would not represent an impartial jury of the President's peers. Unlike an ordinary jury, the senators would decide questions of law as well as fact. And the verdict, no doubt, would turn more on politics than on evidence. Under the Constitution, it would require a two-thirds vote of the senators present to convict the President and remove him from office.

The other big qualification to keep in mind is that under the Senate rules, the trial could be abandoned at any point by a majority vote. This is how a plea bargain might occur. The senators could agree to stop the trial if they decided to censure or otherwise punish the President instead, and if the President agreed to accept the offer, as he indicated he would on Friday.

The last time the question of a Senate impeachment trial was seriously considered was in August 1974, after the House Judiciary Committee had voted to recommend the impeachment of President Richard M. Nixon. The Senate voted to direct its Rules Committee to examine the procedures and precedents.

Then Nixon resigned. Whatever thought had gone into the matter was quickly shelved.

Jackson: Censure Made No Sense

THE President's refrain today is: Don't impeach me; censure me. But back in 1834, the argument was the other way around: Don't censure me; impeach me.

That was the gist of President Andrew Jackson's written protest to the Senate against its 26-to-20 censure of his effort to scuttle the national bank. In effect, the President was admonishing legislators for running roughshod over the Constitution. (Does that ring a bell? Some things never change.) Here are excerpts from Jackson's protest.

TOM KUNTZ



The Rats leaving a Falling House.

Corbis/Bettmann

Andrew Jackson, stunned, as cabinet members leave his ship of state.

The resolution of the Senate is wholly unauthorized by the Constitution, and in derogation of its entire spirit. It assumes that a single branch of the legislative department may for the purposes of a public censure, and without any view to legislation or impeachment, take up, consider, and decide upon the official acts of the Executive. . . .

It is only in the exercise of its judicial powers, when sitting as a court for the trial of impeachments, that the Senate is expressly authorized . . . to consider and decide upon the conduct of the President. . . .

The Constitution declares that "the President, Vice President and all civil officers of the United States shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors"; that the House of Representatives "shall have the sole power of impeachment"; that the Senate "shall have the sole power to try all impeachments"; . . . [and] that "no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present." . . .

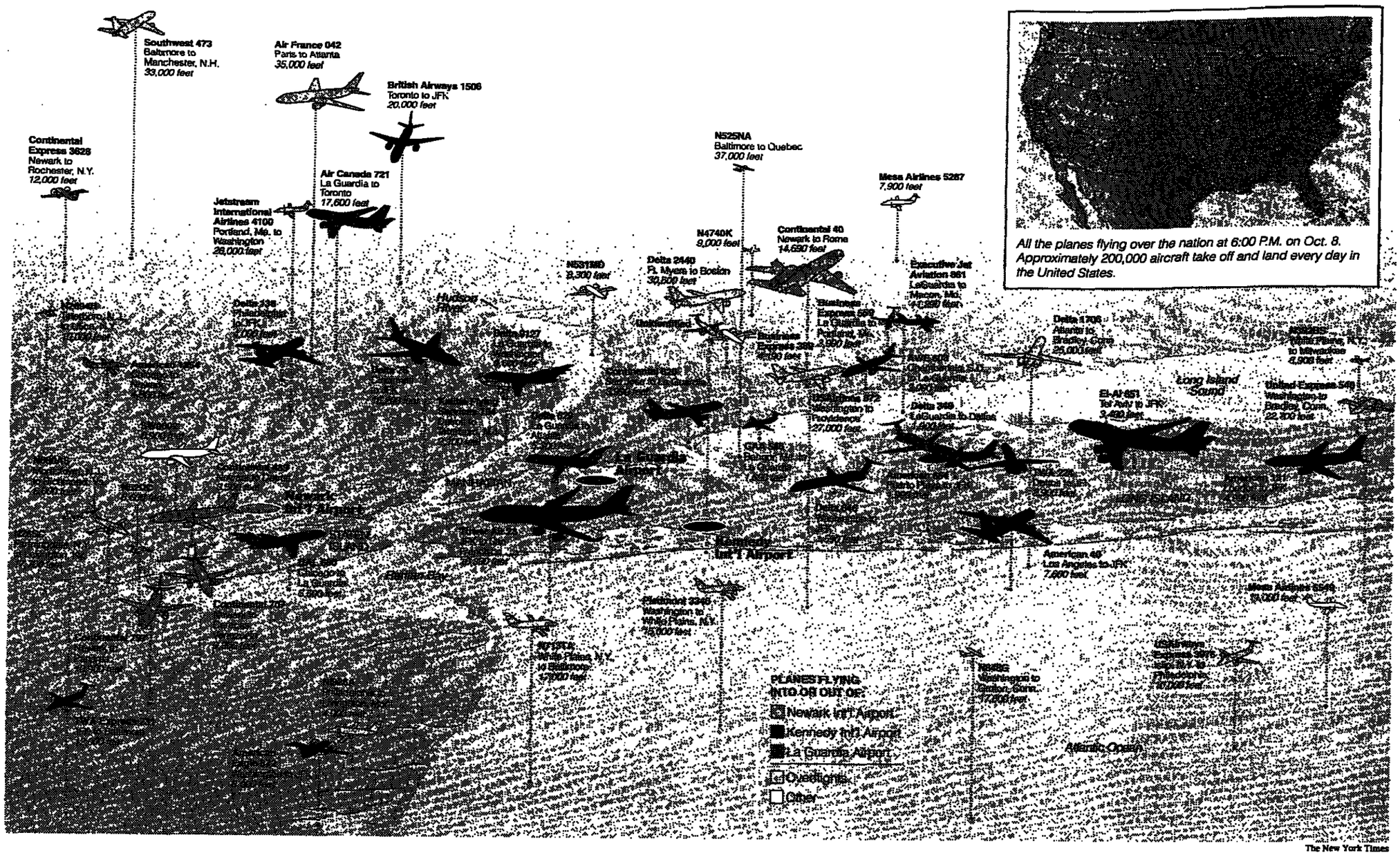
The President of the United States, therefore, has been by a majority of his constitutional triers accused and found guilty of an impeachable offense, but in no part of this proceeding have the directions of the Constitution been observed.

The impeachment, instead of being preferred and prosecuted by the House of Representatives, originated in the Senate, and was prosecuted without the aid or concurrence of the other House. The oath or affirmation prescribed by the Constitution was not taken by the Senators, the Chief Justice did not preside, no notice of the charge was given to the accused, and no opportunity afforded him to respond to the accusation.

هكذا من الاصل

LEM POST

اصغر من الاصل



All the planes flying over the nation at 6:00 P.M. on Oct. 8. Approximately 200,000 aircraft take off and land every day in the United States.

The New York Times

In Hot Pursuit of Minutiae

The Sound of One Law Breaking Down

By DAVID JOHNSTON

WASHINGTON

IN theory, the independent counsel statute was supposed to be a legal traffic light, blinking red and green at the crossroads of law and politics. It would stop frivolous charges against high-level officials, but serious accusations would be waved on to an outside prosecutor. In recent days, however, the statute's already overloaded circuitry seems to have blown a fuse.

Complaints about the law are coming at a critical time: The statute is due to expire next year, and Democrats and Republicans are lining to up declare that, after two decades, the law intended to keep politics out of corruption cases should be allowed to die. Last week an independent bipartisan commission that included Howard H. Baker Jr., the former Senator and Reagan Administration chief of staff, and Griffin Bell, the former Carter Administration Attorney General, issued a report saying the law doesn't work.

The evidence of breakdown seems to be everywhere. In big-name independent counsel cases, like Kenneth W. Starr's $33 million sex-and-lies impeachment investigation of President Clinton, or less pricey prosecutions, like Donald C. Smaltz's unsuccessful $17 million case against former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy, prosecutors seem to be ending up in bitter controversy or humiliating defeat.

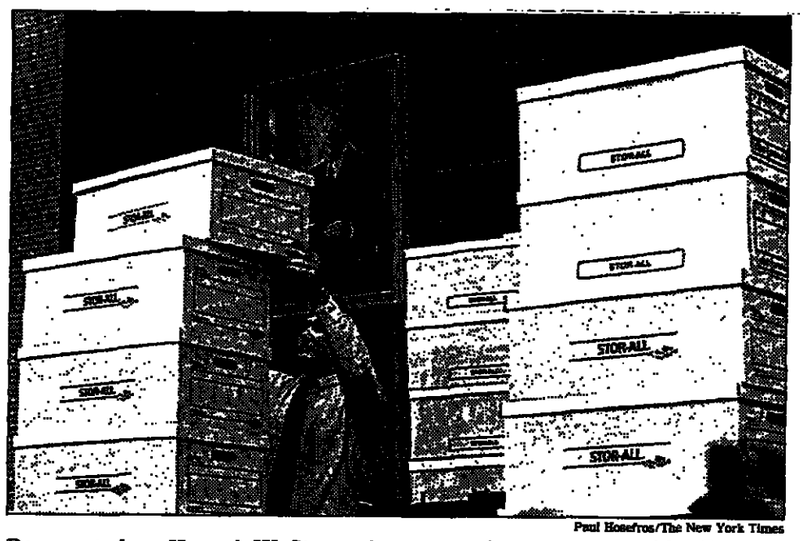
And even when a scandal seems like a natural candidate for an independent counsel, involving allegations of serious violations of Federal election law and accusations against a President and Vice President, the law doesn't seem to apply — at least in the hands of Attorney General Janet Reno.

Over the years about 20 independent counsels have been appointed (some ended their tenure after brief inquiries that were never made public) to investigate charges against both Republican and Democratic Presidents, Cabinet officers and lesser officials. At the moment five independent counsels are still in operation, in inquiries focused on Mr. Clinton and four current or former Cabinet officers.

Democratic critics cite Mr. Starr and Mr. Smaltz as prime examples of what the statute can produce: overzealous inquisitors operating with limitless budgets and without the usual constraints on Justice Department prosecutors.

The critics complain that Mr. Starr and Mr. Smaltz seemed to be obsessed by playing cat and mouse with a single quarry, in the process bullying witnesses and spending years fruitlessly pursuing investigative trails that career prosecutors would have dropped in months.

OF course many of the Democrats who are now complaining about Mr. Starr were silent when the Republicans assailed Lawrence E. Walsh's four-year independent counsel investigation of the Iran-contra affair. But even that inquiry largely failed to hold anyone criminally liable for the profound constitutional issues at the heart of the scandal. The inquiry ended abruptly when President Bush, after being defeated by Mr. Clinton, pulled the plug on the prosecution by pardoning Caspar W. Weinberger, the former Secretary of Defense, and five other former officials on Christmas Eve in 1992.



Paul Hosefros/The New York Times

Documents from Kenneth W. Starr as background for a congressional briefing.

Some inquiries have never gotten off the ground. Twice in the last two weeks Ms. Reno has terminated 90-day preliminary inquires with decisions that cleared Mr. Clinton and Vice President Al Gore of wrongdoing in campaign fund raising. Her decisions made it highly unlikely that either will ever be investigated by an outside prosecutor for their role in the 1996 Democratic fund-raising effort.

Her recent decisions were consistent with her refusals over the last two years to seek an outside counsel to investigate myriad charges of campaign finance abuse, overruling both Louis J. Freeh, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Charles G. La Bella, the former head of her campaign finance unit. Each had concluded that the evidence required that the case be sent to an independent prosecutor.

Senator Fred D. Thompson, a Tennessee Republican and chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, said last week that Ms. Reno's decision was probably the "final nail in the coffin of the independent counsel law."

IF Republicans complain that Ms. Reno has set the standard too high in the campaign finance case, Democrats complain she has set it too low in the case of lower-level Clinton Administration officials, who have been its most frequent targets. A case in point is the investigation of Henry G. Cisneros, the former Housing Secretary, over the relatively small issue of whether he lied to the F.B.I. about how much money he paid his former mistress.

So for whatever reasons recently, the law has been toothless in cases of possibly serious violations of campaign finance laws but has been used aggressively to investigate gifts of sports tickets, payments to a mistress and whether Mr. Clinton lied about his relationship with Monica S. Lewinsky.

But it's not over yet. Ms. Reno has one more independent counsel decision. On Nov. 30, faced with a decision on whether to seek an outside inquiry of Harold M. Ickes, formerly Mr. Clinton's deputy chief of staff, Ms. Reno got a 60-day extension. At issue is whether Ms. Ickes lied about his activities on behalf of the teamsters' union in a labor dispute with a California walnut processor.

Special Investigators

Independent counsels, the years of their appointments and the results of their investigations.

1979
Arthur H. Christy
Investigated accusations of cocaine use by Hamilton Jordan, chief of staff to President Jimmy Carter. No indictments.

1980
Gerald Gallinghouse
Investigated accusations of cocaine use by Tim Kraft, President Carter's campaign manager. No indictments.

1981
Leon Silverman
Investigated alleged mob ties of Raymond J. Donovan, Labor Secretary to President Ronald Reagan. No indictments.

1984
Jacob A. Stein
Investigated alleged financial improprieties of Attorney General Edwin Meese 3d. No indictments.

1986
Whitney North Seymour Jr.
Won perjury conviction of Michael K. Deaver, former deputy chief of staff under President Reagan.

1986
Alexia Morrison
Investigated accusations that former Assistant Attorney General Theodore Olson deceived Congress. No indictments.

1986
Lawrence E. Walsh
Investigated sale of weapons to Iran and diversion of profits to Nicaraguan rebels. Obtained convictions, some overturned on appeal, others leading to pardons by President George Bush.

1987
James C. McKay
Won conviction of Lyn Nofziger for ethics violations in lobbying. Conviction was overturned on appeal.

1987
Carl Rauh
James Harper
Investigated finances of W. Lawrence Wallace, a former Assistant Attorney General. No indictment.

1989
Name of counsel and target sealed. No indictment.

1990
Arlin M. Adams
Larry D. Thompson
Investigated sale of favors in the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Several indictments and convictions.

1991
Name of counsel and target sealed. No indictment.

1992
Joseph DiGenova
Investigated possible abuse of passport files by Bush Administration. No indictments.

1994
*Robert B. Fiske Jr.**
Kenneth W. Starr
Conducted inquiry into Whitewater deal, since expanded. Some investigations ongoing.

1994
Donald C. Smaltz
Won indictment of former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy. Acquitted. His former chief of staff was convicted of lying

1995
David M. Barrett
Investigated accusations that Henry G. Cisneros, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, lied about payments to a former mistress. Won indictment. Trial pending.

1995
Daniel S. Pearson
Investigated Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown's finances until Mr. Brown was killed in a plane crash in Croatia.

1996
Curtis Emery von Kann
Investigated Eli J. Segal for conflict-of-interest accusations in fund-raising for a private group while he was head of the Americorps program. Investigation ended with no action.

1998
Carol Elder Bruce
Investingating whether Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt broke the law in connection with his testimony about an Indian casino license. Pending.

1998
Ralph I. Lancaster Jr.
Investingating accusations that Labor Secretary Alexis Herman solicited $250,000 in illegal campaign contributions. Pending.

*Appointed by Attorney General Janet Reno during a period when the independent counsel law had lapsed.

There's Angst in Toyland

Continued from Page 9

be considerably more reasonable than a single gift-giving orgy.

Another idea is to give children more complicated toys that can engage them for longer periods of time. "More complicated toys that are developmentally appropriate are better than multiple toys," Dr. Brush said.

In particular, she suggested a toy called a surprise box that requires five different skills to open: To open one door, you slide a lever, and to open another, you flip the equivalent of a light switch. Such toys, she said, can enhance a child's sense of mastery. And motivation to achieve, she added, flows from doing something simple and having an effect on one's environment.

BUT this requires concentrated study and thought on the part of children — and an overabundance of toys can be a decided distraction. "If you have too many toys, children don't want to explore a particular toy in depth," Dr. Brush said.

Along the same lines, child experts say toys should be chosen to encourage fantasy. Complicated toys that offer more to watch than to do are a no-no.

"The more the toy does for you, the less opportunity you have to engage actively," said Elizabeth Schnur, a psychologist at the Jewish Child Care Association who studies the developmental reasons some children do better than others.

Dr. Jeffrey Derevensky, a child psychologist at McGill University, has studied toys and children extensively. He has also worked as a consultant with Fisher-Price and others to get better toys on the market.

He points out that even from a child's viewpoint, more is not always better. An example is children's desire to hear the same book read over and over. "If you read it enough times, they know it by heart," he said. "But you can't skip pages in it. They want that kind of element of control."

Educational toys are best, Dr. Derevensky said, particularly educational computer software. "The best thing about a computer is that it has an infinite amount of patience," he said. "It never yells at a child. It never says, 'How many times are we going to have to go over this before you learn it?' "

But Dr. Derevensky and others particularly recommended gifts like board games that can bring families together to participate in an activity. "When you think about the fond memories of holiday times," he said, "certainly some of the things stand out, like the old Schwinn bicycle. But the vast majority of the memories are personal ones, the ones where families did things together.

"Ask kids what is the best part of Christmas, and they'll say, 'No school and I got to go to the movies with my parents.' "

The World

A Mother Country's Advice: Do as I Say, Not as I Did

By ALAN RIDING

IN the early 1980's, as many South American countries were preparing to switch from military to civilian rule, they were hugely encouraged by Spain's recent passage from dictatorship to democracy. Just seven years after Francisco Franco's death in 1975, Spain had elected a socialist Government, while its handsome young Prime Minister, Felipe González, had become a political pinup throughout Latin America.

Less attention was given to a key reason for Spain's successful transition: Still carrying the scars of civil war and repression, Spain had decided to address its future by turning the page on its past. There was no question of punishing the abuses of the Franco regime. And even then, a military revolt in early 1981, albeit defused by King Juan Carlos, was a chilling reminder that true reconciliation would take time.

Here, too, Spain served as something of a model for much of Latin America — and, in a particular irony, for Chile. In 1990 the region duly adapted Spain's gradual transition to its own circumstances. But now it finds itself at odds with Madrid over a Spanish prosecutor's efforts to punish the former Chilean dictator, Gen. Augusto Pinochet, for crimes allegedly committed up to 25 years ago.

In most Latin American countries, "borrón y cuenta nueva" — "wipe the slate and start afresh" — was the preferred approach. Only in Argentina did some former junta members end up in jail because only in Argentina was a military regime forced out of office (after defeat in the 1982 Falklands war). Elsewhere, including Chile, armies ceded power slowly and reluctantly and, while special commissions issued "Never Again" reports on assassinations, disappearances and torture, those responsible were rarely charged.

It seems all the stranger then that Spain should now be trying to extradite General Pinochet to Madrid to face trial for the genocide, terrorism and torture of Spanish nationals under the rules of international law. The 83-year-old general, who was arrested in London last month at the request of a Spanish judge, appeared before an English magistrate Friday for a preliminary hearing into Spain's extradition request after his claims to immunity were rejected. On Thursday, he was formally indicted in Madrid.

The case has caused a storm in Chile's relations with both Spain and Britain, with Pinochet sympathizers calling for reprisals and warning that his trial could destabilize Chile's new democracy. Even the country's center-left coalition Government has urged that the former dictator be released, hinting unconvincingly that he might even be brought to trial once home. And, of course, Chilean conservatives have remarked that Spain is trying to do to others what it did not do to itself.



Associated Press

A crowd in Madrid last week memorialized Francisco Franco and urged the release of Augusto Pinochet.

A perhaps stranger twist is that while Spain is now being applauded by center-left governments and human rights groups for daring to apply international humanitarian law, this new status is hardly relished by Prime Minister José María Aznar. Indeed, his conservative Government repeatedly argued before a Madrid court that Spain had no jurisdiction in the case, although its challenge was finally rejected by a panel of Spanish high court judges. Last week the Government said it "wholly respected" the legal process; in private, officials said they would prefer it if the general just flew home.

Mr. Aznar's position is not difficult to understand. In the 1980's, Spain's relations with Latin America were essentially political and cultural as both sides reached out for international respectability after years of authoritarianism. But when Latin America's economies opened up in the 1990's, with many government-owned enterprises becoming privatized, Spain's focus changed. Suddenly, Spain saw the region as one big business opportunity. With a rush of investment in telecommunications, banking, electrical energy, airlines, book publishing and other areas, Spain's annual direct investment in Latin America grew to $4.7 billion in 1997 from just $155 million in 1990, according to the Madrid-based Institute for European-Latin American Relations.

CHILE, which has had the region's fastest economic growth this decade, was a particularly enticing target for Spanish business interests. Last month, Spain's Foreign Minister, Abel Matutes, estimated that Spain has some $7 billion worth of direct investment in Chile.

With so much in the balance, then, the last thing that Spain wants is to be seen to be pulling rank, playing the colonial master, interfering in the region's affairs in the manner of, well, the United States, the country that moved quickly to expand its influence in Latin America after Spain was chased out in the 19th century. Having left its linguistic and cultural stamp on Latin America, Spain now prefers to be thought of more as friendly brother than overbearing mother.

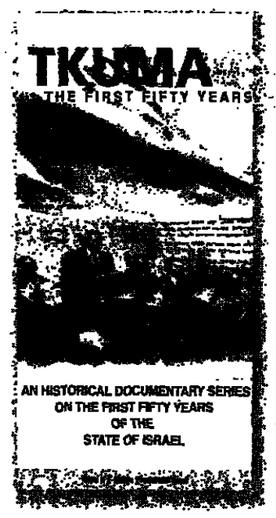
And much of Latin America is keen to reciprocate. It was charmed by Mr. González and it routinely mobs King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofía on their frequent visits. It was disappointed when Spain's entry into the European Union in 1986 did not multiply Latin American exports to Europe. But Spanish investment still has the singular advantage of not being American.

WILL all this be disturbed by the maverick Spanish judge, Baltasar Garzón, and his audacious moves against General Pinochet? In Chile perhaps it will be upset temporarily, above all if the extradition process in Britain drags on for many months. "The current situation is going to complicate our lives somewhat from a political viewpoint, depending on how things play out," noted Rodolfo Martín Villa, chairman of the Spanish utility Endesa, which has bought a 32-percent share of Enersis, Chile's main distributor of electricity.

Elsewhere in Latin America, Spain seems unlikely to be much affected. Because of Washington's record of intervening politically or militarily in the region, most Latin American countries react nervously to threats to their sovereignty. Yet the people who are now presidents of several Latin countries themselves spent time in either jail or exile while military regimes were in power. At a regional summit last week, they stated their belief that international law should apply to "crimes of international transcendence."

More relevant, perhaps, with democracy well entrenched in the region and no imminent perils of military takeovers, Latin American governments are today far more concerned about managing their troubled economies than reliving the ideological confrontations of the 1970's and 1980's. "Latin America needs capital and Spain has capital," the Spanish writer and sociologist Amando de Miguel noted, "so even Chile needs Spain. That's why I don't think reprisals are very likely."

Indeed, as Latin American officials and diplomats look to the future, they have a concern that is more immediate than whether international justice should be applied to General Pinochet or other retired generals with brutal human rights records in, say, Argentina, Uruguay, Colombia, El Salvador and Guatemala. It is what can be done to prepare a peaceful transition to democracy in the region's last remaining undisguised dictatorship, Cuba. And there, Spain's original model of "borrón y cuenta nueva" may again prove useful.



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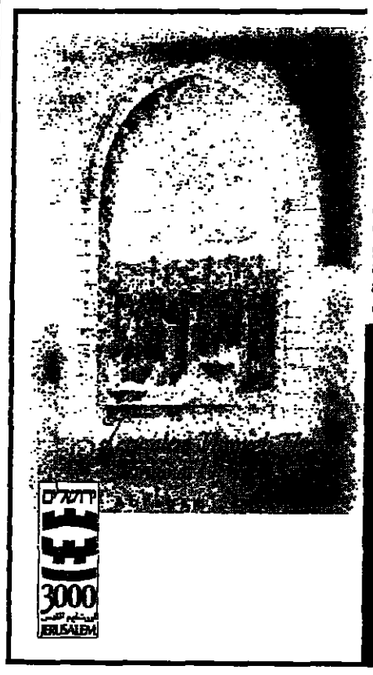
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ECONOMY

Boeings' Leaders Losing Altitude: A Year of Crises

By LAURENCE ZUCKERMAN

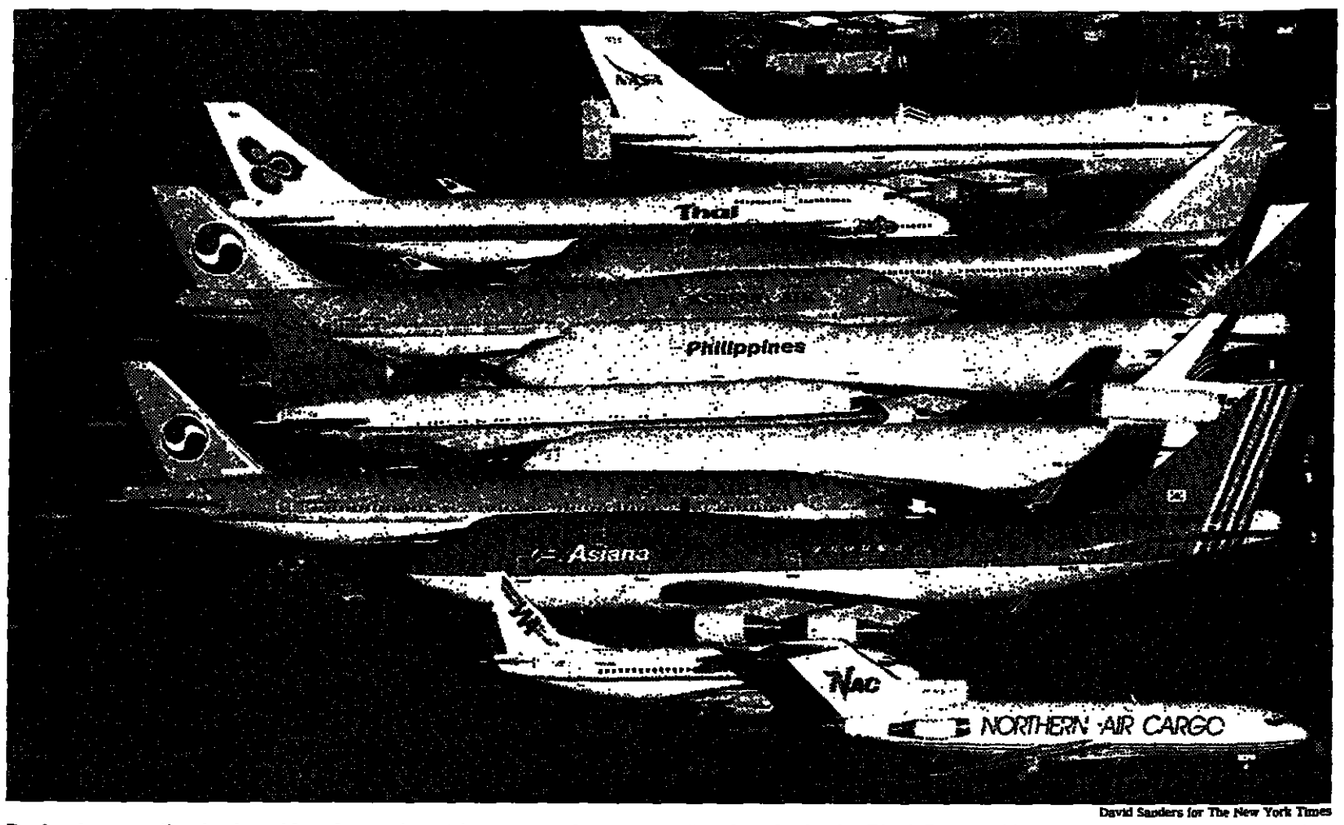
SEATTLE

LISTENING to Philip M. Condit and Harry C. Stonecipher talk about the difficulties facing the Boeing Company, the global aerospace powerhouse and national icon they jointly run, oddly brings to mind the feminist battle cry of the 1980's: They just don't get it.

After an awful year of monumental production foul-ups, $4 billion in unexpected accounting charges and lots of talk about illusive recovery plans, the news from Boeing only seems to get worse. Earlier this month, the company stunned investors and its 232,000 employees with the announcement that it would cut as many as 48,000 jobs by 2001 — and still make only a negligible profit.

The news from the nation's single largest exporter rippled across the country. President Clinton weighed in with his concerns about the company's health. And on Wall Street, shareholders — who had been led by Boeing to believe the worst was over — began selling in anger, even disgust. Boeing stock closed at $33.125 a share on Friday after selling for as much as $56.25 in April.

"This is one of the great American industrial franchises of the 20th century," said John Hayes, an analyst at Independence Investment Associates. "For the business to be in this kind of disarray is unfathomable. These guys have been doing this a long time. They should know how to build planes at a profit."



David Sanders for The New York Times

Boeing is struggling in the midst of one of the biggest sales booms ever for aircraft. At the Pinal County Airpark near Marana, Ariz., Boeing jetliners, many of them ordered by foreign airlines, are parked in storage while the company awaits payment.

YET in their first interview since announcing the latest cuts, Mr. Condit, the chairman and chief executive, and Mr. Stonecipher, the president and chief operating officer, spoke last week as if Boeing had no choice but to make the decisions that have laid it low — to sell hundreds of airplanes at cut-rate prices in 1995 and 1996 and then to nearly triple production rates.

"No one could have run this place successfully for the last year," said Mr. Stonecipher, the former chief executive of McDonnell Douglas, who joined Boeing after it acquired McDonnell last year for $16 billion, creating a national monopoly in large passenger jets and the world's biggest military contractor and aerospace company.

"The systems were overloaded to the point where it doesn't matter who was in charge," he said. "You could have worked it a lot of different ways; the result would have been the same."

Mr. Condit's credibility seems especially weak, because he has had to revise so many of his public positions in the last year. Yet he still has trouble, even in hindsight, viewing the company's actions as a colossal blunder. "I think we were very close to making it," he said of the ill-fated ramp-up in production. "So it isn't, gosh, you can look back and say, 'It was clear you wouldn't have.' "

Boeing's 13-member board is set to meet tomorrow. And for the first time in anyone's memory, as The Seattle Times pointed out in an editorial last Sunday, the ouster of a Boeing chief executive is being openly discussed by employees and on Wall Street.

"If I was on the board, I would be taking a hard look at whether to keep him," said Bill Whitlow, an analyst at Safeco Asset Management in Seattle.

While Mr. Condit acknowledged that he was in the hot seat, he said that he was working harder than ever and that he didn't think a change at the top made sense.

"I think we are better together than either one of us would be alone," he said, referring to Mr. Stonecipher, adding later, "I could not imagine a better partner."

Still, if Mr. Condit's days are numbered, Mr. Stonecipher, 62, may be positioned to cap his long career as Boeing's next chairman. That idea rankles many employees of the old Boeing — "heritage Boeing," in the company's post-merger parlance — because after years of bruising competition they, not McDonnell Douglas, had prevailed in the marketplace.

Boeing loyalists especially resent what they see as the heavy hand of Mr. Stonecipher, a blunt talker who became popular on Wall Street first by turning around the Sundstrand Corporation, a maker of aerospace components, and then by sharply improving McDonnell's financial performance before selling that company to Boeing.

As Boeing's problems worsened in the last year, Mr. Stonecipher's power appears to have grown. He, rather than Mr. Condit, 57, is seen as the man behind the departures of a number of Boeing executives, including the longtime chief financial officer and the head of the commercial airplane division.

Mr. Stonecipher, who had a large stake in McDonnell Douglas, is now one of Boeing's largest shareholders; so is John F. McDonnell, the son of one of McDonnell's founders, who like Mr. Stonecipher is on the Boeing board. Mr. Condit, like other board members who came from the old Boeing, owns relatively little stock.

Mr. Stonecipher is seen on Wall Street as a strong executive who holds his charges accountable, while Mr. Condit is widely viewed as a talented engineer who is out of his element running the country's 11th-largest industrial company.

In the interview on Wednesday, Mr. Condit and Mr. Stonecipher dismissed talk about differences between them. Mr. Condit said that they leaned on each other and often swapped roles, but that Mr. Stonecipher's job was to focus more on day-to-day operations while he concentrated on longer-term strategy.

The two men could not be more different. Mr. Stonecipher is tough-talking, quick-tempered and unsentimental. He was raised modestly in the coal-mining regions of eastern Tennessee and worked his way up through General Electric for 27 years, rising to become head of its jet engine business before spending seven years at Sundstrand and three at McDonnell Douglas. He has been married to his Tennessee sweetheart for more than 40 years.

Mr. Condit grew up comfortably as an only child in San Francisco, where his father was a chemist for Standard Oil. He joined Boeing in 1965 after getting a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from Princeton. In addition to doing engineering work on a variety of airplanes, Mr. Condit had stints in sales and marketing. He was named president of Boeing in 1992, rising to chief executive in 1996 and to chairman last year. He is currently going through his third divorce.

WHILE Mr. Stonecipher is feared, Mr. Condit is genuinely liked. "I'm a little more aggressive than Phil," Mr. Stonecipher told a group of potential investors in New York last year. "I'm more likely to shoot you and then ask you your name. Phil is likely to ask you your name and then shoot you."

In acquiring McDonnell Douglas, Mr. Condit wanted his rival's large military operations. Along with the space business of Rockwell International, which Boeing bought for $3.2 billion in 1996, they were supposed to help Boeing balance the ups and downs of the notoriously cyclical passenger airplane market. But even with all those new businesses and with only one competitor left — Airbus Industrie, the European consortium — Boeing expects to earn only $1 billion this year, a meager 1.8 percent return on sales. Although Boeing is building more jets than ever, it will make hardly any money for the next two years from selling them.

In hindsight, it seems obvious that Boeing's commercial airplane business was headed for trouble, given what the company was trying to do. Two years ago, when demand for new planes began to pick up after a drought in the mid-90's, Boeing made a bold bid to gain market share by offering steep discounts. Executives believed that plans to overhaul Boeing's production systems — which date to World War II and are still largely paper-based — would allow the company to lower the unit cost of each jet by 25 percent, so that it would make a profit even at the low prices.

As orders poured in, Boeing was forced to increase production to 40 planes a month, from 18, in a year and a half. Rather than help, the efforts to consolidate 400 separate computer systems, track millions of parts and digitize thousands of drawings added to the rising confusion. Parts shortages developed, and work fell behind schedule as thousands of new workers — hired to replace older, skilled laborers who took early retirement during the previous down cycle — could not handle the load.

At the same time, Boeing was trying to introduce several new models, each of which required certification by regulators in Washington and Europe, adding to the delays. In addition, many of its new orders were from new customers, which meant tens of thousands of hours of engineering work to customize the planes to their specifications.

By early October last year, Boeing's assembly lines around Seattle had seized up. The company said it would halt production of its 747 and 737 jets for a month to catch its breath. Along with costly changes on the new 737, that resulted in a stunning $2.6 billion in accounting charges.

Over the next year, as the airplane division struggled to recover, a pattern developed. Executives led by Mr. Condit would try to put the best face on the situation. But just when it seemed things were turning around, the company would drop another bombshell.

A low point came in July, when Boeing released its second-quarter earnings and, for the first time, offered earnings guidance to Wall Street analysts. While most analysts were estimating that Boeing would earn $1.64 a share this year and $3.24 a share in 1999 — down from as high as $5 before the production difficulties arose — Mr. Condit said the company expected to make $1.01 a share in 1998 and $2.02 a share in '99.

Boeing's share price plunged, and analysts were irate. The next day, when Mr. Condit met in Boston with institutional investors and analysts, one analyst all but called him a liar. At a similar session in New York the next day, another analyst implied that Mr. Condit was deliberately trying to drive down the price of the stock to buy it on the cheap.

Shaken, Mr. Condit returned to Seattle and told colleagues he never wanted to be put in such a position again.

But his credibility has continued to deteriorate. In the spring, Mr. Condit strongly defended Ronald B. Woodard, the head of the commercial airplane division, when many people were calling for his head. Five months later, he ousted Mr. Woodard, who had been in line to become Boeing's president. Insiders now say that Mr. Condit's mistake was not firing Mr. Woodard sooner.

Boyd E. Givan, Boeing's chief financial officer for 32 years, was also forced to resign after reportedly clashing with Mr. Stonecipher. "I thought they shot the messenger," said Dean Thornton, a retired Boeing executive. Mr. Givan will be replaced by Deborah C. Hopkins, former chief financial officer for General Motors Europe, who starts work tomorrow.

Mr. Condit and Mr. Stonecipher said that the bad news this month was unavoidable, because the economic downturn in Asia had forced the company to cut back its production in 2000 far more than it had thought.

The explanation is puzzling: For more than a year, the company's assessment had been much less pessimistic than those of outsiders; now, when some experts are beginning to say that conditions in Asia are improving, Boeing is saying the situation is worse than ever.

"I think most of the world is really in denial about what's going on in Asia," Mr. Stonecipher said.

What really alarmed investors about Boeing's recent disclosures was the company's acknowledgment that margins on its commercial airplanes would be even lower in 2000 than in 1999. The announcement raised analysts' concerns that it will take Boeing longer than anticipated to make its assembly lines more efficient.

Already, Alan Mulally, the new head of the commercial airplane division, has delayed the production modernization program; instead, the company will try to deliver planes on time and avoid penalties. "We are probably the least efficient we have ever been making airplanes," Mr. Mulally said in an interview last week. Thousands of extra workers are on the payroll simply to get planes out the door, he said.

With this month's layoff warning, many of those people are fearing for their jobs, even as Boeing depends on them to help it out of a jam. "It's a helluva Christmas present to give Boeing employees," said Bill Johnson, president of the machinists union local that represents 39,000 Boeing workers.

The union, which struck Boeing for 69 days in 1995, is gearing up for negotiations next August, and it believes it has Boeing over a barrel. The company wants to introduce a new workweek to cut overtime and institute co-payments on health insurance.

"We are not going to be mean," Mr. Johnson said. "We are just going to make sure we get the things we want. They cannot afford a strike in September."

CAN Mr. Condit ride out the current storm? On paper, the odds look to be in his favor. Only 4 of the 13 board members, including Mr. Stonecipher, came from McDonnell Douglas. Eight are Boeing holdovers, presumably with loyalties to Mr. Condit, including such pillars of the Northwest as George Weyerhaeuser, the paper magnate, and Charles M. Pigott, the former chairman of a truck maker, Paccar Inc.

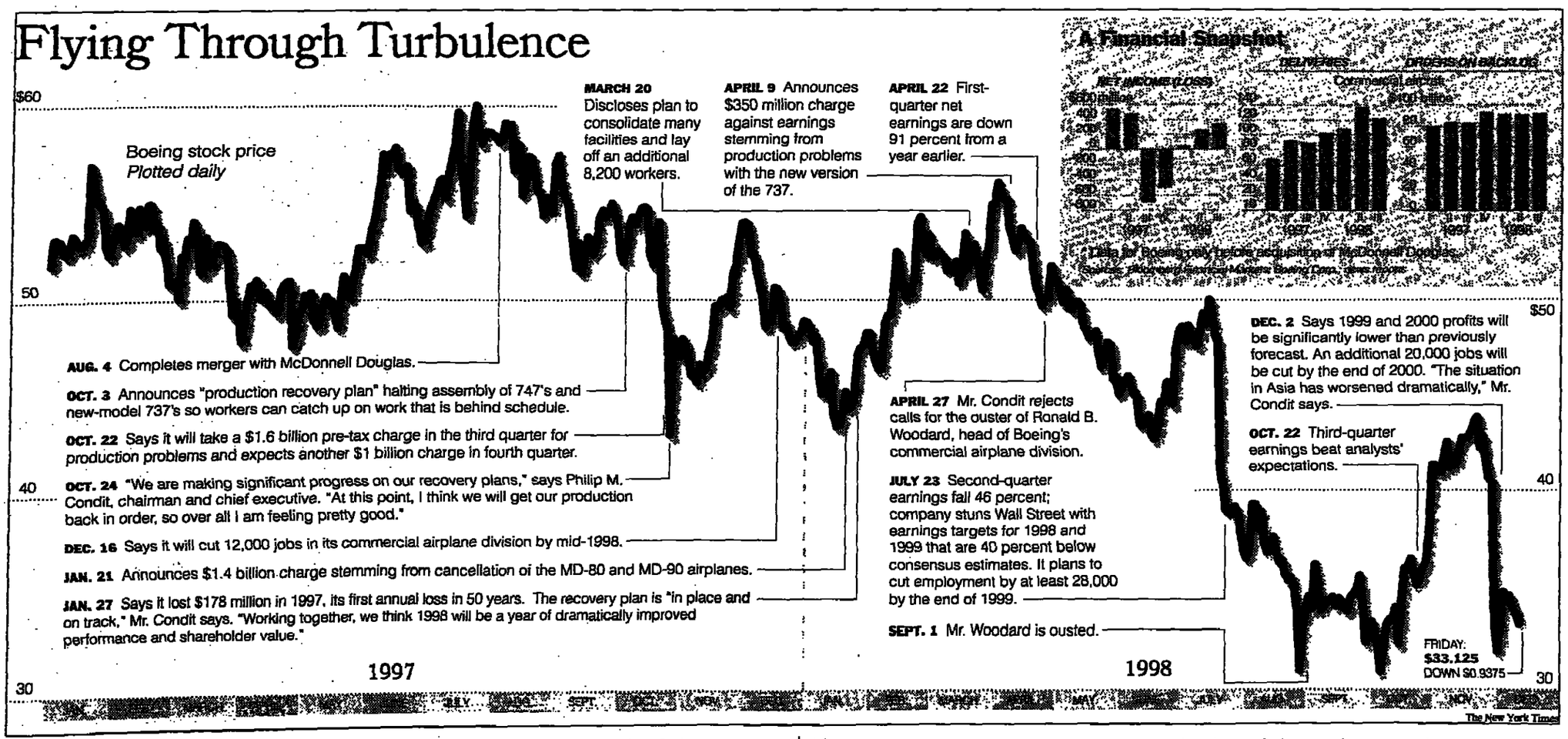
Even with Mr. Stonecipher in the executive suite, there is no clear succession plan. He would be popular with investors, but faces mandatory retirement in less than three years. The only other obvious candidate within Boeing is Mr. Mulally, 53, who has his hands full turning around the jet business and is not yet considered seasoned enough to be chief executive.

Bringing a new leader into Boeing from outside would be a dramatic step for the proud company. But it could hasten changes that Mr. Condit and his predecessors have talked about implementing for the last decade, with little apparent progress.

"Boards really aren't very compassionate," Mr. Stonecipher said. "The moment the board decides that somebody else can get this thing done for them, we will be out of here the next day."

Is Boeing at that point today? Mr. Stonecipher did not hesitate to answer. "No," he replied.

Flying Through Turbulence



The New York Times

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The Misuse of Impeachment

With the House now headed for a vote on impeachment, it is essential to cut through the constitutional distortion that developed during the Judiciary Committee debate. One of the most dangerous notions is that impeachment by the House is an acceptable functional substitute for censure — the equivalent of a stinging grand-jury indictment or a rebuke that can be passed in anticipation that the Senate will not remove the President.

Members of the committee and G.O.P. leaders like Tom DeLay, who has filled the leadership vacuum left by the inaction of the designated Speaker, Robert Livingston, have been hawking this idea. The same constitutional heresy pops up in the more thoughtful but equally mistaken Representative Bill McCollum, a Florida Republican. Attempting to head off the popularity of a true censure resolution, he argues that impeachment is simply "the ultimate censure."

The Democrats are right, of course, that use of impeachment as a signal of condemnation distorts the evidentiary and punitive cycle envisioned by the Framers of the Constitution. They clearly intended for impeachment to pass the House only when its members wanted to remove the President, not simply to scare or punish him. By suggesting that impeachment could be used to rebuke the President or to send a signal about the primacy of law, the Republicans are defining impeachment down, to borrow from Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan's warning about "defining deviancy down."

The idea of using impeachment as a symbolic punishment is contradicted by the language of the Clinton impeachment articles themselves, as approved by the Judiciary Committee. Each concludes with the statement that President Clinton's conduct "warrants impeachment and trial, and removal from office. . . ." The Republicans feel justified in misusing the impeachment process because they have the sorry task of coping with a President who has defined down the standards of Presidential responsibility. The Constitution, with its proper emphasis on high crimes and misdemeanors, does not specify how to deal with the low antics of a rogue chief executive like Mr. Clinton. But it does provide the room to craft a punishment short of impeachment by the House and removal by the Senate.

From the standpoint of both public opinion and the Constitution, censure is still the preferred way to punish President Clinton. But he left Washington yesterday without offering meaningful assistance to those who are trying to save him from being the second President to be impeached by the House of Representatives.

By putting his own semantic roadblocks in the way of censure, Mr. Clinton is giving new meaning to political self-destruction. He is daring a Republican Congressional majority that should not be dared, and in the case of the House Judiciary Committee, he is diverting attention from its misapplication of the impeachment process.

Weeks ago Henry Hyde and other Republican leaders grandly spoke about the importance of avoiding partisan division if the Lewinsky case ever came before the House. They were right then, and wrong now to manipulate the Constitution in their pursuit of Mr. Clinton. If the Republicans will allow a censure resolution to be placed before the House, and if Mr. Clinton will finally give up his evasions and admit that he lied under oath, this matter can be fairly and properly concluded with the censure of the President.

A Magnificent Forest Deal

What is perhaps most exhilarating about the $76 million agreement to save about 300,000 acres of forests and wetlands in New York, Vermont and New Hampshire is the quality of the land itself. Almost a third of the vast acreage to be sold by Champion International would become a vital preserve, protecting wildlife and watersheds, as well as areas of surpassing natural beauty. These lands feature 13 mountain peaks in New Hampshire, sensitive wetlands and river frontage in northeastern Vermont and 29,000 acres within New York's Adirondacks that include one of the most majestic boreal forests in the country. These woods also serve as habitat to dozens of creatures from the showshoe hare to the amazing carnivorous sundew plant that dines on some of the northern forest's most irritating insects.

The other two-thirds of the land, more than 200,000 acres, would include "working forests" where, ideally, controlled logging is balanced against preservation and such recreations as hiking, skiing, mountain biking and snowmobiling. In some of these areas, forest lovers will gain access to miles of lakes, rivers and waterfalls that have been within private properties for over 100 years.

Masterminding this complicated agreement is a nonprofit conservation group in Virginia called the Conservation Fund, one of several such organizations trying to preserve massive tracts of forest land that are rapidly being sold off by timber and paper companies. What is still at risk for this sale, however, is the Vermont part of the package, where Federal, state and private sources must still come up with about half of the $26.5 million required.

The New Hampshire parcel, the smallest of the three, is important but not vital for the deal. New York State is the most prepared of the three to complete its share of this bargain — thanks to preservation bonds authorized by voters two years ago and a strong endorsement by Gov. George Pataki.

Of the 144,000 acres in New York, logging would be allowed on 110,000 acres, under state rules that should insure trees are not cut faster than new ones can grow. Using $24.9 million of the 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act, New York would buy "conservation easements," or agreements from logging companies to limit cutting, and would also purchase the 29,000 Adirondack acres outright to be protected under the state's "Forever Wild" law. The state still must decide whether this parcel, most of it in the northern and western sections of Adirondack Park, deserves extra protection as a wild forest area, with some roadways, or as a wilderness area, where no vehicles are allowed, even mountain bikes. Included in the remaining 5,000 acres are a 1,000-acre hunt club that stays intact and a parcel outside the park that will be sold without state easements.

While the states and the environmentalists will need to monitor carefully these "conservation easements," the entire plan, which has the support of most major conservation groups, is vastly better than some of the other possibilities for these forest tracts as timber companies put their lands up for sale under pressure from stockholders. Compare these efforts with the tragedy in Maine, where this year alone more than two million acres of forest have been sold, with less than 2,000 acres set aside for preservation.

Editorial Observer/GAIL COLLINS

Urban Renewal: First and Ten, Bond It Again!

Football fans will tell you that winning is all about intangibles. This is particularly true when the goal is to sell the taxpayers a $375 million stadium.

"You cannot measure, you cannot weigh the new spirit that will be created by an N.F.L. team," Gov. John Rowland told Connecticut's state legislators last week. On Tuesday the Legislature is going to vote on a deal that would relocate the New England Patriots to Hartford, a move that Robert Kraft, the Patriots' owner, refers to in terms bordering on the matrimonial. ("We're taking an asset we're very passionate about. . . . We're telling you we want to partner with Hartford.") Mr. Kraft has nevertheless done an excellent job of weighing and measuring what it will take to consummate the relationship. The stipulation describing how the state will pay him up to $17.5 million a year in reimbursements if the Patriots fail to sell their new and very expensive luxury boxes reads a little like a prenuptial agreement.

Mr. Rowland has been lobbying the legislators with a mix of sports metaphors and a sort of hard-nosed mysticism — Knute Rockne meets Buffy the Vampire Slayer. When they express doubt that large numbers of area residents will pay $5,000 to watch the games in a seat that has waiter service, the Governor tells them that "no dream is worth having without some risk involved."

> Haven't I seen this town on 'Game of the Week'?

But Mr. Kraft's side of the deal is actually very specific and risk-averse, while Connecticut gets all the parts about partnership and passion and the promise of economic touchdowns. The legislative leaders, who cannot be thrilled that the deal recently starred in one of NBC's "Fleecing of America" news features, are pressing the Patriots for concessions.

Nevertheless, the lawmakers seem eager to be won over. After Mr. Kraft made his pitch at a public hearing last week, a State Senator from the Hartford suburbs announced he had decided to support the project when he saw Mr. Kraft kiss his son Jonathan, the Patriots' vice president. Almost no one has publicly rejected the entire idea of committing public funds to the pursuit of a professional football team that would play a total of 10 home games a year. When anyone does, the Governor just asks if there are any better ideas about how to resuscitate Hartford. Connecticut's state capital is a physically small city, hemmed in by suburbs that guard their autonomy like Rottweilers. It has been the beneficiary, or victim, of lots of redevelopment schemes over the years, which sliced up neighborhoods with highways and drove out small businesses to make way for office towers. The night life is so bleak that the traditional restaurant hangout for politicians has moved to the suburbs. "People actually coming downtown — now there's a novel idea," said Mr. Rowland.

Think of this as the Hail Mary of urban redevelopment. Everybody knows Hartford's citizens have dozens of needs more pressing than football, but they are needs that defy normal political answers. The state is already shoveling money into Hartford's schools, which deliver abysmal education at the cost of about $10,000 per pupil — as much as the richest towns in Connecticut spend. The local Board of Education once embraced that spirit of risk the Governor finds so energizing and hired a private company to run the system, an experiment that ended in disaster. The board has now been replaced by state trustees, who are facing a long, gritty trench war against the effects of years of patronage hiring, bad contract negotiations and bureaucratic intransigence.

It is no wonder the legislators are relieved to be talking about something big and showy and specific — what Hartford's Mayor calls "the Big Bang theory of getting things done." The state, Mr. Rowland reminded them recently, has spent $650 million on economic development in Bridgeport, but the most heralded achievement is a low-budget stadium for a minor-league baseball team called the Bridgeport Bluefish. The mention of the Bluefish inspired one of the lawmakers to ask Mr. Kraft if he didn't think Connecticut would do better by finding Hartford a Triple-A baseball franchise. "If you think a minor-league ball team can rejuvenate the city," said the owner doubtfully. Only he, Mr. Kraft reminded them, could make their capital the star of "Monday Night Football." And how do you put a price tag on that?

Death Penalty vs. Human Rights

To the Editor:

Yet again legal chaos surrounds an execution in Texas ("High Court Postpones Execution of Canadian in Texas," news article, Dec. 11). What a coincidence that the United States Supreme Court decided to delay the execution of Joseph Stanley Faulder on the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The whole purpose behind the enactment of the Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act in 1996 was to place more of the burden on state courts to insure that convictions were constitutional.

To this day both trial and appellate courts in Texas continue to ignore this obligation. Cursory judicial review is followed with a decision from a moribund Board of Pardons and Paroles that refuses to meet or provide reasons for its decisions.

This "due process" not only is unseemly but also makes yesterday's anniversary hardly a day to celebrate. DAVID MARSHALL
Los Angeles, Dec. 11, 1998
The writer is a lawyer.

Not the First Time

To the Editor:

"Texas and International Law" (editorial, Dec. 9) failed to note that ignorance of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations is not limited to Texas.

As a Dec. 8 news article about the case of Joseph Stanley Faulder reported, police agencies in other states also have been accused of failing to allow detained foreigners to contact their consulates. This is a privilege afforded them under the 1969 Vienna treaty.

And Mr. Faulder isn't the first death-row inmate in Texas to claim that his rights under the treaty were violated. Last year the state executed Irineo Tristán Montoya, a Mexican national, despite efforts by the Mexican Government and our State Department to stop the action, again based on alleged violations of the Vienna pact. VERONICA FLORES
San Antonio, Dec. 9, 1998

Where Is Fairness?

To the Editor:

I am very sad about the plight of a fellow Canadian, Joseph Stanley Faulder, who waits on death row "Texas and International Law" (editorial, Dec. 9).

As a Christian, I am ashamed of my evangelical counterparts in the United States. When it comes to child poverty, the plight of single mothers and the homeless, many American fundamentalist Christians are nowhere to be found. But when it comes to revenge, the "moral right" is on the spot, complete with many powerful Republicans. KEN HOLMES
Prince Edward Island, Canada
Dec. 10, 1998

Travelers Beware

To the Editor:

"Texas and International Law" (editorial, Dec. 9) correctly highlights a potential problem for American travelers. Joseph Stanley Faulder, a convicted murderer on death row, was not told by the Texas authorities after his arrest that he had a right to seek help from the Canadian consulate. This violated the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Under international law, such actions can be used to justify similar treatment of Americans abroad.

There is a basic rule of treaty law, codified in the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, providing that how a treaty is applied by states affects how it is interpreted by other states and international tribunals. American law-enforcement officials must understand that their practices can adversely affect the rights of United States citizens all over the world. HOWARD S. SCHIFFMAN
Brooklyn, Dec. 9, 1998



Jeff Scher

NATO's Expanded Role

To the Editor:

A Dec. 7 editorial, "New Visions for NATO," criticized American proposals for an expanded NATO role, arguing that such ideas could potentially lead to NATO's becoming a "global strike force" that would go "far beyond any sensible mandate." As the United States Ambassador to NATO, my first reaction to this was to ask, "Why wasn't I told?" In fact, there are no such proposals.

NATO members agree that the alliance's role needs to evolve in step with the post-cold-war strategic environment. Although NATO's core mission will remain the defense of its members, the allies recognize that there are many different kinds of threats from outside its territories.

Thus, since 1991, NATO has been acting "out of area" in numerous ways: operations in Bosnia and Kosovo, political and military cooperation with Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union and a dialogue with its neighbors across the Mediterranean.

NATO's new strategy, to be adopted in April, will not turn the alliance into a global police force, but will affirm NATO's adaptability in tackling new risks, like regional instability, weapons of mass destruction and terrorism. ALEXANDER VERSHBOW
Brussels, Dec. 8, 1998
The writer is United States representative to NATO.

Applause for Reno

To the Editor:

Calling Attorney General Janet Reno and her decision not to appoint an independent counsel to investigate President Clinton's 1996 campaign a "disgrace" and her eventual exit "unlamented" (editorial, Dec. 8) over such a difficult and ambiguous matter is disgraceful in its own right.

Existing campaign finance regulations are porous and inexact. When one adds to this the evidence that both President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore acted upon their lawyers' judgments that they were honoring the law, Ms. Reno's conclusion that any further investigation would be unproductive seems adroit.

But beyond that, such an investigation would be wasteful. As a taxpayer, I applaud Ms. Reno's decision not to stuff more millions of our dollars into the pockets of Washington lawyers, particularly when she deems the case unprosecutable.

Indeed, campaign finance reform is badly needed in this country, in part so that future cases like this will be prosecutable. ADAM FELBER
Brooklyn, Dec. 9, 1998

A Tunnel's Benefits

To the Editor:

A Dec. 11 news article reports about a new study critical of the proposal to build a rail tunnel under the Hudson River to carry freight between the Brooklyn waterfront and the rest of the country. Despite the criticisms, there are two very important advantages to building such a tunnel.

Currently, all rail freight destined for points directly west of the New York metropolitan area must be routed through Albany, the nearest freight rail crossing of the Hudson River.

Moreover, hard rock shelves limit the depth at these locations and are extremely expensive to excavate. To accommodate super container ships, all ports have to be deepened substantially, but in Brooklyn alone only dredging, and not blasting, is required, a matter that has significant economic and ecological implications. DAVID WUCHINICH
New York, Dec. 11, 1998
The writer is an electrical engineer.

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Center on Genocide Is a Good Start

To the Editor:

President Clinton's announcement of the creation of an early warning center on genocide in the State Department (news article, Dec. 10) would carry more weight if he showed more willingness to act against risks of genocide developing in Central Africa right now.

On his trip to Africa last spring, the President expressed regret at the United States' failure to act to stop the 1994 Rwandan genocide. But that event was only the worst in a long chain of mass killings that continue.

The legacy of that genocide is a major cause of the spreading war in Congo. The armed forces of nine countries are now involved there (Week in Review, Dec. 6). Harvests have been destroyed, and mass famine is imminent. Thousands are being massacred. Some leaders openly call for ethnic killings, while others carry them out in silence.

Announcing an effort to warn of future genocides while saying nothing about one that is developing right now seems to bear out the statement of a United Nations official at a meeting on early warning: "We tell people we didn't know, because we don't want to do anything." BARNETT R. RUBIN
Dir., Center for Preventive Action
Council on Foreign Relations
New York, Dec. 10, 1998

Who Helped Pinochet?

To the Editor:

Re "Judge Lays Out Pinochet Case in Full Detail" (news article, Dec. 11): I am pleased that the British Government has decided to respect the legal proceedings begun in Spain against Gen. Augusto Pinochet. It is a rare and welcome moment when our most abusive political figureheads are brought to account for their actions.

No one can reasonably assert, however, that General Pinochet operated in a vacuum.

If I imagine what might have been the history of a brutal, counterinsurgency program like Operation Condor — a project attributed to General Pinochet — I can't keep myself from guessing that, in the course of that grim work, there must have been at least some English spoken in those otherwise Castilian midsts. And if not English, then there must certainly have been some very strong foreign accents resonating through the hallways of Moneda Presidential Palace. JAY MARK JOHNSON
Marina Del Rey, Calif., Dec. 11, 1998

Draft Issue in Israel

To the Editor:

Re "Israel's Supreme Court Ends Yeshiva Student Exemption" (news article, Dec. 10):

While reasonable people may disagree over the proper scope of the exemptions from Israeli military service granted to yeshiva students, it is unproductive and unfair to declare that "thousands of strictly Orthodox young men" enroll in yeshivas as a means to obtain "refuge from military service."

In fact, these men dedicate their lives to the study of Torah because they believe, as did Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, that such study is vital to the preservation of the Jewish people. That thousands of American students travel to Israel each year to dedicate their college years to study in these very same yeshivas seems to prove this point. Or are they also there only to seek refuge from military enrollment? AVI SCHICK
New York, Dec. 10, 1998

Not Just Orthodox

To the Editor:

You describe the non-Zionist Orthodox Israeli yeshiva students whose army draft deferments were struck down by the Israeli Supreme Court on Dec. 9 as "strictly Orthodox" (news article, Dec. 10). These students are no more strictly Orthodox than the thousands of religiously committed students who combine their yeshiva study with army service.

These students share the notion that Torah is the study that keeps Judaism alive, but recognize that it is the army that keeps Israeli Jews alive. They have no reason to concede any religious superiority to those who shirk their social responsibility. JOEL B. WOLOWELSKY
Brooklyn, Dec. 10, 1998

Ending State Debt

To the Editor:

New York State Comptroller H. Carl McCall's concern about rising New York State debt ("McCall Proposes New Curbs On Albany's Ability to Borrow," news article, Dec. 11) is justified.

We need to amend the State Constitution's provisions about debt.

We should authorize local governments, including the state government, to issue revenue bonds — bonds backed only by a specified stream of revenue, rather than the full faith and credit of the issuer — in their own names, as the 49 other states do.

Straightforward revenue bonds would eliminate the "back-door borrowing" that the current system necessitates. DICK NETZER
New York, Dec. 11, 1998
The writer is a professor of economics and public administration at New York University.

هكذا من الاصل

مكبرا من الاصل

Historic 1974 vs. Histrionic 1998

By Neal Gabler

Last week a phalanx of witnesses paraded before the House Judiciary Committee to delineate the differences between the Watergate scandal some 25 years ago and the current Presidential scandal. It was a distinguished group, and its members loftily contrasted the political, legal and historical issues.

But they entirely missed the fact that they themselves seemed to represent another difference, this one cultural.

Watergate was a historic event covered by the press. The Lewinsky scandal — even as it moved into the stately Congressional hearing rooms — is a media event with historic ramifications. All the appurte-

Watergate at least had its moments of solemnity.

nances of a media event have been there all along: the hype, the fabricated drama, the celebrity-mongering of which the witnesses themselves were inevitably a part.

This is not to say Watergate did not have some of these same elements. It, too, became a show, with its own celebrities: the wily Sam Ervin Jr. of North Carolina, who was chairman of the Senate Select Committee; the minority counsel, Fred Thompson, who parlayed his fame into a career as an actor and is now a Senator himself, and The Washington Post reporters Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward, to name but a few.

Nor is this to say that the press coverage back then did not have its hysterical aspect, especially once the momentum for impeachment began building. There was, however, an aura of solemnity, even an occasional glint of dignity, during the Judiciary Committee's deliberations in 1974 that carried over into many precincts of the press.

This time around, calm detachment is in short supply. Frenzied engagement is more like it. And this time around there is a whole army of scandal-generated celebrities, including lawyers and pundits who pitch their tents wherever there is a camera and microphone, which these days is everywhere.

Partly, of course, the difference between then and now is the difference between the nature of the alleged offenses: hanky-panky with the Constitution vs. hanky-panky with an intern. The very salaciousness of the current scandal, its preoccupation with semen stains and definitions of sex, certainly contributes to its the aura of farce. Still one suspects that even if the issue at stake were more serious — say, an investigation of campaign finance abuses — it almost certainly would be recast as melodramatic entertainment or it would be ignored.

Neal Gabler is the author, most recently, of "Life the Movie: How Entertainment Conquered Reality."

The basic fact is that the Monica Lewinsky scandal and the constitutional crisis it has created may seem both larger and more trivial than Watergate because the details are flogged in so many places. Entire networks — MSNBC, the Fox News Channel, CNBC — are devoted to "covering this story 28 hours out of every 24," as Keith Olbermann, the former MSNBC host, put it.

The only way to fill the airtime has been with an endless stream of interpreters, whether the exegetes who teased significance out of the most mundane matters or Talmudic scholars of the Starr report who parsed each word of it — and have done so for hours, weeks, even months on end. Hence Geraldo Rivera, Alan Dershowitz, Ann Coulter, Laura Ingraham, Richard Ben-Veniste and others, often paired off, hurling words at one another like bricks, night after night after night. Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein are around for historical continuity.

But to attribute the impeachment blockbuster to the proliferation of media begs the question of why they proliferated in the first place. Since Watergate there has been an evolutionary change in our consciousness. After decades of steady inundation, we have come to think of nearly everything as entertainment, and we demand more outlets for it. The O. J. Simpson trial, the murder of JonBenet Ramsey and the Lewinsky scandal are big entertainment with two tremendous advantages over conventional entertainments: suspense and built-in plausibility.

All of this makes for a marvelous symbiosis. Viewers think of these blockbuster news stories as entertainment, the cable networks think of them as inexpensive programming, and the talking heads seem to think of them as vehicles for their own celebrity. This last factor is the only way to explain why lawyers and pundits allow themselves to be recycled from O. J. to JonBenet to Monica.

Sports have their famous color commentators — John Madden, Terry Bradshaw, Tim McCarver. Now every scandal has its color commentators. The difference is that sports commentators never go down on to the playing field and join the action. Pundits in the Lewinsky scandal

This time, it's been a media event right from the start.

have exercised no such restraint.

The expert witnesses who testified last week included several regulars on the all-Lewinsky circuit, like Mr. Ben-Veniste, plus others who have provided Op-Ed pieces about the scandal. One, the Yale law professor Bruce Ackerman, had an article published on this very page the same day he appeared before the Judiciary Committee. There are others who appear before the cameras, then testify, then write about it.

In fact, since relatively few people are tuning into the hearings, the babble about them seems to have become the only point, and the commentators themselves have become the main event. Does anyone think



Whitney Sherman

Marcia Clark has anything to share on the impeachment process?

Given all this, it may be that the legacy of Watergate was not merely the political precedents it created, but "All the President's Men." It was "All the President's Men" — the movie, perhaps, even more than the book — that reconfigured a political crisis into a thrilling noirish narrative with a beginning, a middle and an end and a Manichaean drama with heroes and villains. And it was "All the President's Men" that brought the media directly into the narrative, establishing the pattern for the scandals to follow.

The Lewinskyites have taken the idea and run with it. Those who aren't interpreting the action or testifying about it can be actively involved in it, breathlessly delivering scoops and stoking the fire, presumably awaiting certified stardom in the movie version. Indeed Michael Isikoff, the reporter for Newsweek, spent so much time on television that he could not stake out Ms. Lewinsky's apartment for fear of being recognized.

Now, of course, everyone seems to be part of the show, which is always the case when celebrity beckons: grandstanding Congressmen and former Congressmen, prosecutors, defense attorneys, witnesses, reporters, secretaries as well as those pundits. One attractive counsel for the Judiciary Committee has even received fan mail from viewers who caught a glimpse of her sitting behind Representative John Conyers — shades of Maureen Dean but even more ridiculous.

This, in a nutshell, is what may finally distinguish Watergate from the current impeachment spectacle. While the former manifested divisions in our political culture, the latter manifests not only those divisions but also our obsession with entertainment and celebrity.

It has been a terrific show, and we are certainly going to miss it when it closes, even if its audience is thinning out. How else are we going to fill those 28-hour days?

In America

BOB HERBERT

The Capitol Hill Mob

Forget about the will of the people, the democratic process and the good of the country. The extremists in the Republican Party are trying to bludgeon their way to an impeachment that hardly anybody wants and nobody needs.

If the Government and perhaps even the economy are thrown into a tailspin as a result — well, so be it. The fanatics of the right are willing to pay any price, bear any burden, to hammer the man they hate above all others, Bill Clinton.

I'm no champion of the President, but I know a lynch mob when I see one.

Obsessed with the sins of Mr. Clinton, the right-wingers believe with their idol Barry Goldwater that "moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue." (Mr. Goldwater's views on fooling around in the workplace are, nevertheless, not helpful to his spiritual descendants. Laurence J. Peter, author of "The Peter Principle," quotes the late Senator as follows: "I think any man in business would be foolish to fool around with his secretary. If it's somebody else's secretary, fine!")

Most Americans thought the campaign to impeach Mr. Clinton had been derailed by the Democrats' strong showing in the November elections and Newt Gingrich's decision three days later to relinquish the Speakership and leave Congress. There was a general feeling that if the President hadn't been punished enough, the country certainly had. It was hoped that Monica-all-the-time would give way to Monica-every-now-and-then.

But somebody forgot to tell Tom DeLay. Mr. DeLay is the onetime exterminator from Sugar Land, Tex., who has emerged as the Republicans' chief pro-impeachment fanatic. He's the Republican whip, the man who rounds up the votes in the House. Nothing short of impeachment will satisfy him. He is adamantly opposed to the House even *considering* a censure resolution.

If you want a sense of how extreme Mr. DeLay can be, consider his approach to the environment. He believes the Environmental Protection Agency is the "Gestapo of the Government." He believes that DDT is A-O.K. Not harmful. He is not bothered by threats to the ozone layer. When the Nobel Prize in chemistry was awarded to the discoverers of the link between chlorofluorocarbons and ozone depletion, he mocked the award as the "Nobel Appeasement Prize."

Another piece of work in this bizarre drama is Representative Bob Barr, a Republican from Georgia who has long been recognized as an impeachment fanatic and was widely regarded as a crank. Nevertheless he is on the Judiciary Committee and voted on Friday for impeachment. That same day The Washington Post ran a story in which Mr. Barr acknowledged being a keynote speaker this year at a meeting of the Council of Conservative Citizens, a white supremacist group that is worried blacks will exterminate whites by infiltrating their bedrooms.

Americans may wish to put the sordid Lewinsky saga behind them, but if the G.O.P. fanatics get their way and

Is there no escaping the fanatics?

Mr. Clinton is actually impeached by the House, the very opposite will happen. The issue will become bigger than ever, overwhelming everything else in the Government for months and months to come.

A trial of Mr. Clinton in the Senate, presided over by Chief Justice William Rehnquist, and with star witnesses like Monica Lewinsky and Linda Tripp and Vernon Jordan, will make the O. J. Simpson story look like a warm-up act. It will seem like Monica-forever-and-ever.

Much of the Government would come to a halt. Any semblance of legislative bipartisanship would vanish. There would be no possibility of an agreement on Social Security, no patients' bill of rights, no serious Federal initiatives on education.

"It would poison every relationship," said a Capitol Hill veteran.

Said another: "You'd have to consider the legislative year over."

Wall Street executives fear the stock markets would be adversely affected and the long economic expansion could be undermined.

There is no doubt that Bill Clinton has demeaned the Presidency. There is no defense for his actions or his lies. But the voters have chosen him twice by substantial margins and they stand behind him still. It is not up to the hatchet men of the Republican Party to undo that.

Tired of asking people if they speak English?

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Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

'Honour in a Shallow Cup'

WASHINGTON

It is too late for pettiness. It is too late for partisanship. It is too late for slander. It is too late for gossip. It is too late for polls.

It is too late for everything that has characterized the ugly, thoughtless, vengeful, casuistic debate of what is now, without doubt, the greatest constitutional excruciation of our time.

It is time for only one thing, and that is sobriety. All the noise and the nonsense have ushered in a chilling moment of gravity, for the President and the Congress and the country.

You would think that at such a moment, a sense of politics would give way to a sense of history. But it is alarming how many of the players in this great drama are still acting cheap and chuckleheaded. The familiar old moves are everywhere.

At the White House, the President and his henchlings do not seem quite sobered up. They still believe that devious formulations and dodges and smears will save them.

On Friday afternoon, Bill Clinton emerged from the Oval Office, from which he can no longer address the nation without the risk of snickers, to offer another re-apology. We put hope over experience and believed he would say something we had never heard.

Experience defeated hope. He repeated his feeble words of tactical "grappling." Then he offered the uncommitted moderate House Republicans a verse from "The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam." But did it have to be the one about the "moving finger"? Why not this one?

Incorrigible but defensible.

Indeed the Idols I have loved so long
Have done my Credit in Men's Eye much wrong:
Have drown'd my Honour in a shallow Cup,
And sold my Reputation for a Song.

The apology was startling in its tepidity. The President seemed like a practiced escape artist who knows how to pace himself. Why give all the profound feeling before the committee votes? Dribble out the best bathos for the House vote, and later for the Senate vote.

But it wasn't only Mr. Clinton's recalibrated penitence that made you wonder. All week long his defenders have been retreating behind the old insulting avenues of defense.

The White House counsel came before the House Judiciary Committee and said the President did not commit perjury because he did not lie because he did not believe that he was lying.

The satanic spinners of the West Wing, who cannot pause even at this moment that should give pause, faxed around an old piece from The Chicago Tribune recounting that David Schippers, the majority counsel at the committee, once represented a porn star named Seka. (He even took her to a Chicago White Sox luncheon!) And the Democrats on the committee issued a statement asserting that Monica Lewinsky's memory "is impaired by prescription drugs." The President regrets the pain he caused his family, but his ex-girlfriend, the stalker, was on Effexor and Serzone.

In short, Bill Clinton is pathologically incorrigible. He couldn't stop himself from touching her, he couldn't stop himself from lying about it, he couldn't stop himself from asking others to lie about it, he couldn't stop himself from allowing the ruthlessness to proceed, he couldn't stop himself from polling the truth.

And yet, *he must be defended.*

The Republicans are trying to impeach Bill Clinton for being Bill Clinton. But being Bill Clinton is not an impeachable offense. Neither is perjury about sex, or about anything else that bears no relation to a President's public duties. What Mr. Clinton did was a low crime and misdemeanor.

Since Watergate, there has been a pendulum of partisan revenge. And right now, Republicans want their payback for Watergate, for Bork, for Iran-contra, even for Woodstock. Like Kenneth Starr, the Republicans are attempting to repeal the 1960's.

There is a cultural war at the heart of this political war, and it accounts for the scandalous Republican refusal to react to Mr. Clinton's offenses with any sense of proportionality.

It is time to move beyond the surreal to the real. The Republicans are doing something far more ominous than what Bill Clinton did. He debased the Presidency, but they are debasing the Constitution.

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THE ARTS

The Muse of Shakespeare Imagined as a Blonde

By SARAH LYALL

MANY things about William Shakespeare's life and work are shrouded in mystery, but the mystery of what scholars call his lost years is one of the most intriguing of all. What did Shakespeare do between 1585, when he is known to have left his home in Stratford-on-Avon, and 1592, when he re-emerged in London, described as an "upstart crow" in the account of a rival playwright? And how did he make the enormous artistic leap between his early plays, flawed works like the bloody "Titus Andronicus," and his romantic masterpiece, "Romeo and Juliet," first performed in 1594?

No one knows for sure, and "Shakespeare in Love" provides a fanciful explanation by imagining the young Shakespeare (Joseph Fiennes) as a nearly unknown actor and playwright who finds his poetic voice through a passionate love affair with one Viola De Lesseps, a woman as clever as she is beautiful. That Viola never actually existed, and that she is played by the certifiably American Gwyneth Paltrow (albeit with a plausible English accent), didn't matter to the filmmakers. The movie, which opened on Friday, is meant to be a high-entertainment mix of fact and fiction, combining a modern sensibility with Shakespearean language and period flourishes, full of the double meanings and sly jokes that characterize the work of Tom Stoppard, its co-writer.

"What's glorious is that so little is known about this period that you're not trapped by any kind of historical circumstance," said John Madden, the director, who is accustomed to reading between the lines of English history, his most recent film having been "Mrs. Brown," which explored the relationship between Queen Victoria and one of her equerries.

"At this point, Shakespeare was seen as some sort of hack; his genius was just being recognized," Mr. Madden said. "One of the great things is to catch him at this moment, when he wasn't the Bard, when he was just a jobbing actor trying to make his way."

What is it like to play a man whose myth now looms so large in our literary consciousness? Mr. Fiennes said he soon got over any misgivings.

"Shakespeare is often portrayed as a boring, iconic, almost mythical person," said Mr. Fiennes, 28. "But I embraced Tom's script because it gives him a warmer, more generous human touch."

There was also a darker side to Shakespeare, one that is touched on in the film as the playwright freely lifts plot and character ideas from other people and mines his experiences for his art. "His love affair is real and profound, and he's lost in the chaos," Mr. Fiennes said, "but at the same time he's almost a leech, constantly looking for copy and almost making things happen in order to get a story."

The formidable cast also includes Ms. Paltrow's boyfriend, Ben Affleck, as Ned Alleyn, the actor playing Mercutio in the play-within-the-film version of "Romeo and Juliet"; Geoffrey Rush as Philip Henslowe, the theatrical producer; Rupert Everett as the playwright Christopher Marlowe, Shakespeare's archrival, and a roll-call of British character actors: Imelda Staunton as Viola's nurse and confidante; the hunky Colin Firth as Viola's unpleasant fiancé, the Earl of Wessex, and Judi Dench as a haughty but feminist Queen Elizabeth I.

The film opens to a theatrical crisis. Henslowe, who runs the Rose



Miramax Films

Gwyneth Paltrow and Joseph Fiennes in "Shakespeare in Love," directed by John Madden. A mix of fact, fiction and wit.

> Young Will has writers' block. Then he meets Gwyneth Paltrow.

Theater, is trying to beat back the competition, but he is heavily in debt and desperately in need of a hit. He hopes that Shakespeare, his current playwright-for-hire, will come through with a play that gives the public what it seems to want: a romance, a shipwreck and some slapstick humor involving an unruly dog.

But Shakespeare's play, tentatively titled "Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter," is not being written. Bereft of inspiration, Shakespeare is suffering from writer's block, sitting in his garret in London, throwing page after page of his work into the garbage. It is not until he meets Viola and falls instantly, heavily, in love that he finds the muse he has longed for. As the two enter into a steamy, illicit affair — she is rich and has a fiancé; he is poor and has a wife back home — he finds that words of love and longing and poetry are flowing, as if by magic, from his quill. And the play he ends up writing, "Romeo and Juliet," is different from anything he, or anyone else, has ever produced.

"Shakespeare was doing something radical for his time," said Marc Norman, the Hollywood screenwriter who conceived the plot some years ago (one of his sons gave him the idea), wrote the initial script and is credited as co-writer with Mr. Stoppard. "Playwrights writing in that period all adhered to the notion that comedies were comedies and tragedies were tragedies, that a comedy is a story about love that ends in marriage, and that a tragedy ends in death. But in 'Romeo and Juliet,' Shakespeare was starting with a comedy and ending with a tragedy, and nobody had ever done that before."

To Mr. Norman, the most interesting question surrounding the play was how Shakespeare was able to leave his more immature work behind and create a piece of such grace and power. "I started to wonder what caused him to do that, what caused him to make that choice," Mr. Norman said. "I thought, 'What if he had a love affair with a woman who inspired him in the course of writing the play?' "

After Mr. Norman's initial script, in the early 1990's, Tom Stoppard, the witty and erudite playwright who has supplemented intellectually challenging plays like "Arcadia" and "The Invention of Love" with a succession of screenplays ("Empire of the Sun" and "Brazil," among others) was brought in for rewrites (the project then languished in Hollywood limbo for some years, moving from Universal to Miramax). The resulting film is unmistakably Stoppardian, existing on several levels at once, made for a 20th-century audience but full of Elizabethan-era in-jokes.

At times, Mr. Stoppard has Shakespeare speaking lines from his own plays as dialogue in his daily life, and at times he interjects very modern witticisms about the plight of writers and the absurd vanity that pervades the theater. The movie also forms a loose parallel to a Shakespearean play itself, lacing its comic elements with semitragedy, cross-dressing (Viola defies Elizabethan convention and fools even Shakespeare by auditioning for "Romeo and Juliet" dressed as a boy), and even the odd sword fight or two. A number of details are also thrown in for the benefit of those familiar with Elizabethan cultural history. There is, for example, a scene in which Shakespeare practices writing his name and then settles on the now-much-reproduced form of his signature, and there is the emergence of a minor character, a boy named John Roberts who plays with rats and enjoys the theater only for its blood and gore. The joke is that he's the same John Roberts who will go on to write works like "The Duchess of Malfi," the Jacobean horror play.

But Mr. Madden, the director, is at pains to make it clear that knowing about Shakespeare and his time are not necessary to enjoying the film. "The screenplay has been carefully crafted so that everyone can catch up and understand it and follow it," he said. "For anyone who wants to spot the references, they're all there, but that absolutely must not be a requirement for seeing the film. They're a bonus."

One suspects that the need to tone down the erudition to widen the film's appeal might have sat heavily with the clever Mr. Stoppard. But he knew what he was getting into when he signed up, he said. "Broadly speaking, in theater the director is there to do his best to serve the writer, and in movies the writer is there to serve the director," he said. "I wear a very different writing hat in movies."

He continued: "It's an interesting medium, popular film, because it's not a homogeneous audience. They get quite schizoid, and they don't know whether they're making the film for the critic of The New Yorker or someone who's had a busy day in Newark and wants to relax."

AT the same time, Mr. Stoppard enjoyed not having to worry about historical accuracy. Among other things, he was free to make up characters that didn't exist, invent scenes that never happened (between Marlowe and Shakespeare, for instance), and play around with the essence of his real-life characters in his own imagination, something he has done in many of his plays (he has also fooled around with Shakespeare before, in "Rosencranz And Guildenstern Are Dead").

"I have a special take on historical accuracy, which is that all supposed historical truths are temporary, meaning they're always there to be modified in the light of subsequent discoveries," Mr. Stoppard said. "But this film is entertainment, which doesn't require it to be justified in the light of historical theory."

For people who love the theater, the film also provides ample opportunity to laugh at the vanity and puffery that surround the acting world.

"Tom has lived his life in the theater and been around that breed," Mr. Madden said of Mr. Stoppard. "He has a wonderfully accurate eye and ear for the kind of little fabrications that actors tell each other. It was very nice to have the opportunity to send all of that up from a historical perspective, where you see the beginnings of modern show business developing."

Many of the people involved in the film also found another of its premises — that a passionate love affair stirs writerly creativity, rather than so exhausting the writer that he spends his days sleeping off his long nights — very seductive. Mr. Stoppard, for one, has always found that to be true. " I think it happily works both ways," he said. "A successful good day's work is a good aphrodisiac, and a successful night's lovemaking is quite an inspiration."

"Shakespeare in Love" closes with a neat premise, that Shakespeare continues to draw inspiration from his romance, immortalizing her in "The Tempest." "That's a very romantic thought," Mr. Stoppard said, "that she never grows old and never dies."

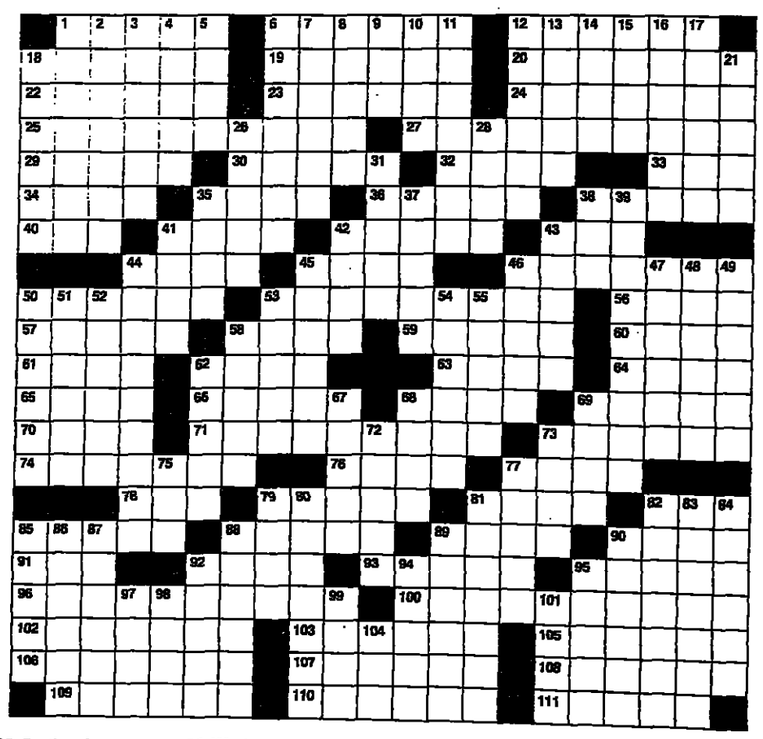


Mark Tillie/Miramax Films

Judi Dench and Billy Connolly starred in "Mrs. Brown" (1997), which was also directed by "Shakespeare in Love's" John Madden.

SOUNDS OF THE PAST

BY RICHARD SILVESTRI / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ



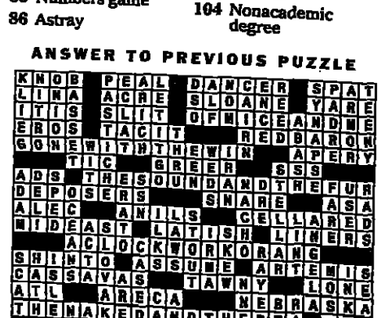
ACROSS

1 Clog kin
6 Come clean
12 Diner bottle
18 Harangue
19 Carol opening
20 Property receiver
22 Cook on the screen
23 "Three's Company" co-star
24 Harder to plow, perhaps
25 Finish last in a renting contest?
27 Luster on display?
29 This side of
30 Plunge suddenly
32 Thirst quenchers
33 Genealogy word
34 Deseeders
35 Spider-Man creator Lee
36 Have relevance
38 Fools
40 Top gun
41 A nephew of Donald's
42 Beat
43 Commodities exchange area
44 1899 warrior
45 Dodge
46 Breastwork
50 Took wing
53 Panel of tiresome people?
56 Manchurian border river
57 Collegiate starter
58 Seeger of song
59 Witch's place
60 Team number
61 Put away
62 Brand of sauce
63 One of the wealthy
64 Jackson 5 member
65 Bough
66 Sound off
68 Mane area
69 Chairperson?
70 Abu Dhabi bigwig
71 Ship perfume?
73 Many chords
74 Rally
76 Bob in the Olympics
77 "The Grapes of Wrath" name
78 Alliance for Progress grp.
79 Sound of a step
81 Rein in
82 It ends in Oct.
85 U.S. Open champ, 1985-87
88 Roger Rabbit et al.
89 Suffers
90 Builder's choice
91 Profitable extraction
92 Sectional
93 Recipe verb
95 Orbital point
96 Bridge-support combine?
100 Payoffs to chart makers?
102 Nominal
103 Self-important sort
105 Fit for farming
106 Another
107 Undivided
108 Stirred up
109 Searches blindly
110 Become whole again
111 Two of Henry's six

DOWN

1 Containing element #34
2 Daughter of Minos
3 Chorus section
4 Significant person?
5 Shade of blue
6 Remote
7 Inventor of the stock ticker
8 Scrap
9 J.F.K. arrival
10 Western tribe
11 As the case may be
12 1974 Oscar winner
13 Bitter drug
14 Castilian kinsmen
15 Genesis son
16 Workers' protectors
17 Little fellow
18 Source of caviar
21 Sea flock
26 $C_4H_8O_2$, e.g.
28 Groundless
31 VCR button
35 Sought damages
37 Annapolis frosh
38 Go public with
39 Remain sober?
41 Ground-breaking person
42 Like Galahad
43 Sky pilot
44 Group of beer drinkers?
45 On the portly side
46 Put to the test
47 Ornamental film
48 On a high
49 After-class aides
50 St. Louis Browns Hall-of-Famer
51 In installments
52 Kind of clock
53 Get one's feet wet
54 Present
55 Go with the flow
58 Origami supply
62 Tournament flora
67 City in the Ruhr
68 Can't do without
69 Grumbler
72 Phylum subdivision
73 Rocky peaks
75 Batman after Michael
77 Dixie drink
79 Hot and sour soup ingredient
80 Oven pan
81 Stronghold
82 Put out of commission
83 Represses
84 No longer green
85 Numbers game
86 Astray
87 Like "it"
88 Australia's —— Strait
89 Sky lights
90 Turn badly?
92 It may be blank
94 Longhorn's rival
95 Soil sci.
97 Japanese sport
98 Hardly haute cuisine
99 Point at the dinner table?
101 ——kiri
104 Nonacademic degree

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



هكذا من الأصل

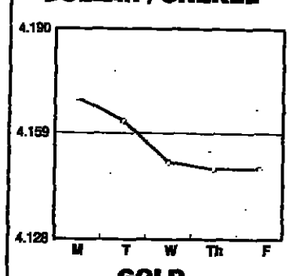
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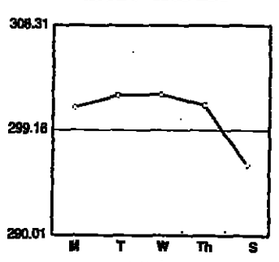
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in brief

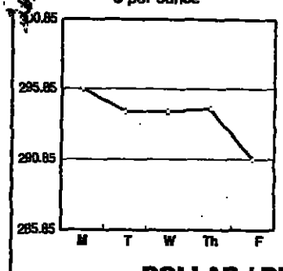
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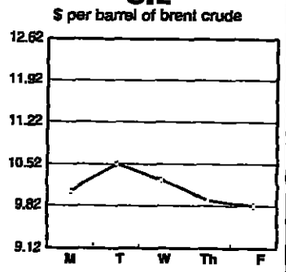
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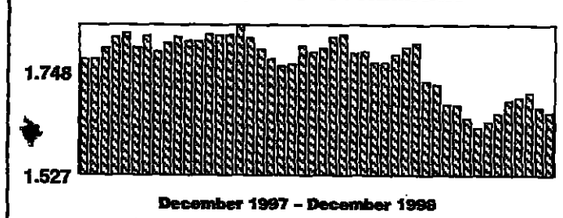
GOLD
$ per ounce



OIL
$ per barrel of brent crude

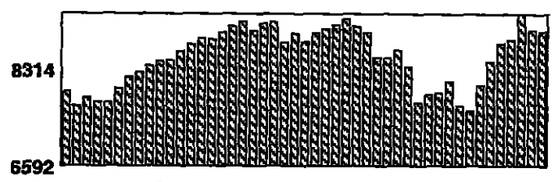


DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



December 1997 – December 1998

DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



December 1997 – December 1998

Moscow to buy stake in Israeli diamond firm

The Moscow city government plans to buy a stake in a new local diamond-cutting company, Russian daily *Vremya* reported this weekend. AO Moscow Jewelry Plant, a Russian-Israeli diamond-cutting joint venture, Ruiz Diamonds, and the city government are in talks on setting up a new venture, based at the plant but expanding its capacity. Presently, Ruiz Diamonds supplies as much as $400 million worth of cut diamonds to Moscow Jewelry Plant annually, the paper said.

RAO Alrosa, which extracts almost all of Russia's diamonds, said it will keep production of rough diamonds next year at the present level of $1.43 billion of diamonds a year, despite a shrinking market. *Bloomberg*

German air force conducts tests of IAI system

The air combat debriefing system developed by the MLM Division of Israel Aircraft Industries has successfully completed trials by German Air Force test pilots and moves on to the next stage in its $14 million deal.

The system "far exceeded the strict requirements of the German Air Force specifications" an IAI statement said. The air combat debriefing system is being jointly produced by MLM and BGT, a subsidiary of the German conglomerate Diehl. The success of the trial makes it possible for MLM to proceed to the last tests and to complete supply of the series to the German Air Force, IAI said. IAI has marketed the advance system independently since breaking up cooperation with BVR last year. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Kuwaiti fund lends Syria $115m.

The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development announced this weekend it is lending Tunisia 35 million dinar ($115.89 million) for an agricultural project.

The Kuwait-based fund said the money would provide for the construction of roads for the scheme and agricultural equipment, the Kuwait News Agency reported.

The loan agreement, which was signed Thursday, sets interest at 4.5 percent, repayable over 22 years with a five-year grace period, the news agency reported.

The loan raises the total of funds extended to Tunisia by the fund to 280.7 million dinars ($929.47 million). *AP*

Breakthrough in Mexican bank bailout plan

Mexico's two largest political parties agreed to a reformulated $61 billion bank bailout fund, ending a nine-month impasse over the plan to rescue the country's beleaguered lenders.

In a five-hour session in the lower house of Congress, most members of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party and the opposition National Action Party voted in favor of the initiative to shore up banks' finances and on a plan to pay for the bank bailout fund.

"We build, we generate solutions," said Fauzi Hamdan, a PAN legislator and a key player in drafting the bill that ended the dispute. *Bloomberg*

Yisrael Ba'aliya threatens to trip budget on rental-tax plan

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

The Yisrael Ba'aliya Knesset faction yesterday threatened to vote against the budget, if Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman's plan to abolish the tax exemption on earnings from property rentals starting from next year is accepted.

Over the weekend it was revealed that Neeman wrote to Deputy Construction and Housing Minister Meir Porush a fortnight ago about his intention not to extend the exemption into the coming fiscal year.

UTJ and Yisrael Ba'aliya MKs, whose haredi and immigrant constituencies frequently live in rented homes, were among the first to attack Neeman's decision, once it was leaked to the media.

Yisrael Ba'aliya whip Roman Bronfman last night laid down an ultimatum to Neeman.

"If you abolish this... we'll vote against the budget," he warned, saying this was one of a number of the party's demands ahead of the key state budget votes at the month's end.

UTJ's Porush said the change will lead to property owners increasing monthly rental charges, which in turn will result in increased inflation.

Both Porush and the Treasury have in recent weeks called on the Central Bureau of Statistics not to introduce its planned reform of the housing component of the consumer price index. Both ministries fear the move to a rental-property rather than purchased-property-based index will lead to greater volatility in the index. These calls came in the wake of the recent depreciation of the shekel. Since the High Holy Days, rented-apartment costs have skyrocketed as they are dollar-linked.

Bronfman said that if Israel was entering a year of economic growth, coupled with substantially lower rental prices because of a boom in the construction industry, he could understand the decision. However, that is not the case and the move can only result in concern among the poor, who will face higher rental fees.

The proposed taxation of apartment rentals also was attacked beyond the political pale.

The abolition "will be yet another blow" to the rental sector, said Ilanot Batucha Investment House analyst Eran Loewenstein. Those who purchased apartments as an investment could well be tempted to sell them, as their returns may be reduced, he said.

The tax exemption was introduced in 1990 at the height of the wave of immigration from the former Soviet Union. Those earning NIS 2,600 or less presently do not pay income tax on their earnings. In Neeman's letter, he explained the exemption costs the Treasury an annual NIS 200 million.

OPEC rejects Libya's call for 1-month sales halt

By SEAN EVERS

KUWAIT CITY (Bloomberg) – Persian Gulf oil producers yesterday rejected Libya's call for the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' to suspend all oil exports to boost sagging prices, near their lowest ever.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Sheikh Saud Nasser al-Sabah, responding to a proposal by Libyan Oil Minister Abdallah Salem Badri at a meeting of Arab oil ministers in Cairo, dismissed the idea of OPEC stopping exports as "simply an attempt to increase oil prices" by making radical proposals, reported Kuwait's official news agency.

OPEC, in a meeting last month, failed to deepen existing output cuts to ease an oil glut and boost prices which are close to a 12-year low.

The 11-member organization, which controls about 40 percent of the world's oil supply, is embroiled in a dispute over which members should bear the brunt of any further cuts.

January–Brent crude rose 18 cents to $9.82 on the International Petroleum Exchange Friday, after touching a record low $9.60 Thursday. Crude oil for January delivery was little changed at $10.79 on the New York Mercantile Exchange after slumping to $10.66, the lowest price sine July 1986.

Analysts, who said that halting oil exports could be more effective than trying to get producers to adhere to output cuts, acknowledged that it would be impossible to achieve politically.

"No one will say yes," said Mohammed Abduljabbar, a senior adviser with the Washington-based Petroleum Finance Company. "But it would be a very effective way of absorbing the oil glut and forcing countries to comply as cheating would be very easy to detect."

Qatar's Oil Minister Abdullah bin Hamad Attiyah said it is not possible for OPEC to stop exporting oil for a month, and he added, that "it is very difficult from a technical point of view."



Ties that bind

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan (left), who is seldom seen wearing suits or ties, put one on yesterday for his meeting with US Secretary of Agriculture Don Glickman, who has joined President Bill Clinton on his visit. The two discussed prospects for the establishment of a joint research fund and ways to cut the costs of shipping grain from the US to Israel.

Study: Employment Service unmotivated to find jobs

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The Employment Service has no incentive to find work for the unemployed, according to a study published yesterday by the Institute for Advanced Strategic and Political Studies.

The paper's author, Shlomi Shuv, claims that because the Employment Service has the exclusive right to determine eligibility for unemployment benefits while it does not have to compete with other bodies in finding work it has become "a convenient mechanism for job seekers to become eligible for unemployment benefits." He added that the rate of placement of unemployed individuals by the Employment Service is extremely low and it is largely unsuccessful in attracting notices for vacant positions from employers.

In 1997 unemployment benefits paid by the National Insurance Institute amounted to NIS 2.21 billion, which is over six times greater than the National Insurance premiums collected from the public. The report estimated that the total cost of unemployment benefits is one percent of gross domestic product.

The document added that over the past five years the total unemployment benefits paid out by employers has on average financed only 20% of the total unemployment benefits paid out by the government. It added that if current payments levels persist there will be no alternative but to raise National Insurance rates by 0.6% of wages.

The institute claims that while professional training courses receive some NIS 650 million of the state budget, the courses offered do not reflect the true needs of the labor market as the initiative for them originated from institutional bodies rather than from employers. It added that in some cases people use the retraining system as a means of prolonging their eligibility for unemployment benefits.

The report concludes that the poor functioning of the government institutions is reflected not only in a considerable waste of taxpayers money but also in the creation of "unemployment of convenience" which results in an artificial increase of about 1.1% in the unemployment rate.

According to Shuv, unemployment in Israel lacks the long-term roots it has in various European countries, and is therefore more treatable here than it is there.

Nov. job seekers up 1.3%

The number of job seekers rose 1.3% in November to 151,300 from 149,300 in October, the Employment Service reported yesterday. The number of labor trouble spots – where the jobless rates has risen above 10% – climbed to 10 last month from 9 in October, with Yeroham exiting the list while Kafr Manda and Ibillin joined it.

The areas with the highest unemployment rates were: Kabul, Ein Mahil, Sderot, Kiryat Gat, Tamra, Dimona, Kiryat Malachi, Kafr Manda and Rahat.

The number of job seekers in development towns dropped to 20.3% of the total sum compared with 21% in the same period last year.

At the same time the number of Palestinian employees working through the Employment Service rose to 31,400 from 26,400 in September in addition to 2,200 workers from south Lebanon.

The number of work permits given to foreign workers decreased in November to 80,200 from 80,600 in the previous month.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai said that the trend of a decrease in unemployment was halted because of the economic slowdown. He added that the governments activities are not enough to prevent unemployment from rising. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

US commerce secretary: Israeli business sector must push peace

By NICKY BLACKBURN

Israel's business leaders should harness their "creativity and sheer brain power" to create economic ties with their neighbors and give the peace process a push, US Secretary of Commerce William M. Daley urged Israel's business sector yesterday.

Daley, who is visiting Israel for three days with US President Bill Clinton, said that economic cooperation was a vital ingredient to a long-lasting peace process.

"The talk at the negotiating table is mostly about politics in the region, but we need to come to the negotiating table and talk about business with the same energy and resolve. With economic stability and jobs, peace, if it does ever take hold, will be long-lasting," he said.

Daley, who was speaking at a lunch organized by the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce, noted that when the peace process first began, countries in the region all expected to see some kind of economic dividend.

While Israel has built a strong economy during this period and is America's number-one trading partner in the Middle East, the Palestinian economy has actually shrunk by 40 percent, he said.

He pointed out that Israel today has a per-capita product of $17,500, while the Palestinians' corresponding figure is just $1,000, and unemployment in Israel is running at 9%, while for the Palestinians it is somewhere between 30% and 50%.

"If the Palestinians have more hope and more jobs... there would be less reason for young people to be on the streets," he said.

During the 1970s and '80s, US cities suffered a high crime rate but in the '90s the economy improved and the crime rate fell dramatically as a result, Daley said.

A number of joint Israeli-Palestinian projects that encourage and generate regional growth already are underway, Daley said, but he added that this number needs to be increased substantially.

Daley pinpointed four areas where he feels progress in regional cooperation could be made: telecommunications, energy, tourism and high-tech.

"We need to try to get Palestinian and Jordanian business people involved in all these areas and have to put together a plan so that people are working together, not on their own."

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TASE drops after Friday losses in US

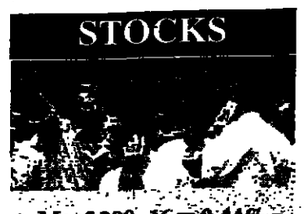
Stocks dropped for a second day, led by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries and Nice Systems, after declines among US stocks over the weekend pulled down Israeli companies.

The Maof Index of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange's 25 largest companies lost 2.53 percent to 299.16, after losing 0.44 percent on Thursday.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 1.9 percent on Thursday amid concern that US company earnings wouldn't match expectations and concern about impeachment hearings against US President Bill Clinton.

Israel companies which trade in the US make up about 28 percent of the market value of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries lost 4.7 percent to NIS 176.8.



Maof 299.16 ▼ 0.44%

Merck & Co., the world's biggest drugmaker, said last week that profit would be less than expected. That "reflects poorly on the earnings prospects for Teva because as a pharmaceutical company, it's linked together with Merck," said Martin Geifman, an analyst at Nessuah Zannex Securities. The American depositary receipts of Israel's largest drugmaker lost 3.8 percent over Thursday and Friday, the trading sessions corresponding to Israel's weekend.

Nice Systems dropped 5.9 percent to 87.2. Nice's ADRs lost 5 percent over Thursday and Friday.

IDB Development Corp. dropped 2.6 percent to 82.5. IDB, one of Israel's largest holding companies, is being sued by shareholders of subsidiary PEC Israel Economic Corp. for purchasing the stock it doesn't already own without an evaluation by stockholders.

Bank Hapoalim dropped 2.1 percent to 7.56. Israel's largest bank by assets is expected to have slower earnings growth in 1999 because of a slump in income from loan activity, traders said.

Osem Investment dropped 0.7 percent to 17.15. Osem, one of Israel's largest food makers, was reiterated "hold" at Koor Futures Markets. (Bloomberg)

Royal Dutch/Shell seen unveiling $5b. charge

The Royal Dutch/Shell Group could announce today as much as $5 billion in charges to write down assets it will sell or close to cope with crude oil prices, which are at their lowest level in 12 years, analysts said.

The world's biggest publicly traded oil company will brief analysts in New York and London on its latest step to trim staff and speed a decision-making process encumbered by a leadership-by-consensus model adopted in the 1950s.

Shell is eager to revive flagging returns and bolster its position as smaller competitors, such as Exxon Corp. and British Petroleum Co., pursue multibillion-dollar acquisitions to create companies that rival its size. The presentations will be the most detailed to date on the strategy of chairman Mark Moody-Stuart, who assumed the post July 1.

"They must do some ingenious restructuring to their business to get returns up," said David Stedman, an analyst with Daiwa Europe. "They're facing a terrible oil price, a slowing petrochemical cycle and the rest of their competitors are merging. These are a lot of significant problems."

Analysts have all but dismissed the prospect Shell will tie up with another major oil company, such as Chevron Corp., Texaco Inc. or Conoco Inc.

It doesn't need further economies of scale – it's already bigger than the combined BP Amoco Plc. would be – and because it has avoided the kind of cost-cutting that US oil companies executed in the last decade, Shell still has plenty of places to trim.

Shell executives said large mergers often get bogged down in regulatory reviews that can strip the transactions of their envisioned benefits and distract managers.

"Academic work shows that mergers rarely achieve all the benefits envisaged," vice chairman Maarten van den Bergh said in October.

Instead, Shell is focusing on its own house. Its profit fell 31 percent in the first nine months of this year to $4.3b. as Brent crude fell below $10 a barrel, its lowest in 12 years and less than half last year's peak price of almost $25.

Moody-Stuart is eager to make good on Shell's promise last year to make a 15% return on capital invested. The measure of the company's efficiency in making investments dipped to 9.2% in the year to October, down from 12.1% in 1997. (Bloomberg)

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (10.12.98)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	4.5239	4.5969	—	—	4.5594
U.S. dollar	4.1267	4.1933	4.05	4.26	4.1590
German mark	2.4840	2.5241	2.44	2.56	2.5026
Pound sterling	6.8574	6.9681	6.73	7.07	6.9175
French franc	0.7406	0.7526	0.72	0.77	0.7462
Japanese yen (100)	3.5111	3.5678	3.45	3.62	3.5397
Dutch florin	2.2040	2.2396	2.16	2.28	2.2206
Swiss franc	3.0491	3.0983	2.99	3.15	3.0766
Swedish krona	0.5128	0.5211	0.50	0.53	0.5156
Norwegian krone	0.5462	0.5551	0.53	0.57	0.5528
Danish krone	0.6533	0.6639	0.64	0.68	0.6574
Finnish mark	0.8173	0.8305	0.80	0.85	0.8232
Canadian dollar	2.6847	2.7281	2.63	2.77	2.7068
Australian dollar	2.5637	2.6051	2.51	2.65	2.5817
S. African rand	0.6912	0.7024	0.62	0.71	0.6972
Belgian franc (10)	1.2038	1.2233	1.18	1.25	1.2129
Austrian schilling (10)	3.5324	3.5894	3.47	3.64	3.5576
Italian lira (1000)	2.5094	2.5499	2.46	2.59	2.5277
Jordanian dinar	5.8000	5.8936	5.70	6.11	5.8434
Egyptian pound	—	—	1.17	1.27	1.2477
ECU	4.8741	4.9528	—	—	4.9076
Irish punt	6.1689	6.2684	6.06	6.36	6.2150
Spanish peseta (100)	2.9192	2.9663	2.86	3.01	2.9408

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Tel Aviv: Superpharm Ministore, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0106; Superpharm Gimmel, 1 Ahimeir, Ramat Aviv Gimmel, 641-7117.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Arza, 36 Ostrovsky, Ra'anana, 774-1613.
Netanya: Geva, 14 Sha'ar Hagai, 882-2695.
Haifa: Super Pharm (Lev Hamifratz), 53 Ha'atzmaut, 051-582021; New Pharm, 40 Hanita, 052-331013; Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 833-3312.
Krayot area: Kupat Holim Clalit Zevulun, 192 Derech Akko, Kiryat Bialik, 878-7818.
Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 954-9903. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.

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Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.

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TEL AVIV
Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Ninety Years of Israeli Art – selection from the Joseph Hackmey-Israel Phoenix Collection. Hedva Ser – tapestries produced in the Aubusson workshops. Plastic Times – Plastic + Design. Jozef Israëls, paintings; Isaac Israëls: Chronicler of Life. From the Cabinet of Curiosities to Virtual Reality: The Museum – Past, Present and Future. "A Point of View" – children's exhibition. Collections. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Meyerhoff Art Education Center, Tel. (03) 691-9155/8.



	LAST	CHANGE*
Abjac	1.7	-5.6
Abudi	38.9	0
Ace-Spade	91.6	0
Ackerstein Bond B	177.4	0
Ackerstein Ind.	469	0
Ackerstein Zvi 1	1666	-2
Ackerstein Zvi 5	6800	0
adakom	0	0
Adanim	323500	0
Adler	133	0
Adsha	116	0
Adumim	322	0
Africa Hotels Bond B	99	-0.5
Africa Hotels Warrant 2	55	0
Africa Israel Hotels Bond A	142.4	-0.5
Afsek Ind	974	0
Agis Warrant 3	0	0
Agis Warrant 4	253	-2.7
Agish Int'l	369	0
Agn Investments	506	0
Al-Ben	125	0
Al-Ben Bond A	124.7	-1.4
Alhe c2	97.8	-0.2
Alhe w6	95.1	0
Alliance	500	0
Alon	255	-1.9
Alony-Hetz	452	0.4
Alony-Hetz Bond A	186	0
Alrod	217	0
Alrod Warrant 1	3	0
Alrov Bond D	84.3	-0.2
Alrov Warrant 5	109	0
Alumir	260	0
Alumit	1930	0
Amigar	171	0
Amiloc	181.5	0
Ammell Warrant 1	58	0
Amrital	660	-1.5
Ampa Investments	126300	5.2
Analyst EMS	620	-1.6
Angel Trade	46	0
Angel Trade Bond A	180	0
Angel Trade Bond B	116	0
Angel Trade Bond C	64	0
Apcon	775	0
Apcon warrant 1	201	0
Applicom	2460	-5
Arad# Warrant 2	395	0
Arad	1270	-8.3
Arad Towels	1298	-1.6
Arazim	106	0
Arazim Bond 1	280	0
Argaman	173	0
Arieban	1329	0.5
Arpal	225	0
Aryt	90.5	0.6
Ashkelon Plywood	420	3.7
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 1	264	0
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 2	167.9	10
Ashlad	410	0
Ashlad Bond A	165	-0.6
Ashot	259	-1.6
Ashot Bond A	180.3	2.2
Ashpan	74	-2.6
Ashtrom Bond 1	177.5	0
Ashtrom Bond 2	167	0.3
Ashtrom Ind.	545	0
Ashtrom Prop.	192	0
Astrom P Bond 1	98.4	0
Astrom p warrant a	20	0
Astrum Bond C	106	0
Astrum Warrant 2	45	0
Atilon	94.9	0
Atmor	1194	0
ATX	198	0
ATX Bond A	0	0
Atzmon	157	0
Aura	4650	-2.1
Avarot	310	-2.5
Avarot Bond A	158.1	-5.6
Avenbuch Formiloa	620	0
Aviv	399	0
Aviv Bond 1	154	0
Aviv Bond 2	91.5	-1.1
Avnar	4.9	-5.8
Avrot Bond 2	95	0
Avrot Warrant 2	37	0
Avtilon	617	0
Azimuth	447	0
Azorim Properties Bond 3	185.4	0
Azorim Warrant '03	408	-2.2
Azorim Warrant 5	105	-0.9
Azores Warrant A	399	0
Azorim Warrant B	590	0
Badash Bond 1	33	-2.9
Bamli	292	0
Balantine 1	143.5	0
Balantine Bond A	135	0
Balron	3630	0
Bama'asaf	950	0
Bama'asaf Bond A	159	3.2
Bar	306	0
Bar Bond A	192.2	0
Barad	238	0
Barsnowitz	820	0
Barkan	641	-5.7
Barsof	139.5	0
Bartal	170	0
Baumel Moshe	163.5	0
BaySide Bond 2	94	-0.5
BaySide Warrant D	1600	0
Bet Shemesh	1341	-1.3
Belmon	340	0
Ben Yakar Bond A	184	0
Ben Yakar Bond B	91.2	0
Ben Yakar Gat	4300	0
Benmax	140	0
Bezek Bond 3	104.2	-4.1
Bezek Warrant Bond 3	279	-4.1
Bilu	1700	0
Bilu Bond A	170.1	0
Binar	279	0
Bet	282	0
Bolos Bond B	78	-2.7
bolos qad warrant 1	35	-10
Bones Tichon	480	0
Bonpur	540	5.9
Boulous Brothers	150	0
Boulous Brothers Bond 1	264	0
Boulous GD	395	0
Boulous GD Bond A	142	-0.7
Brand	84	0
Brit	49.5	0
Brok Side	13.8	0
Brosh	135	0
Building Bank	1310	0
Building Recou	4300	-0.7
C Holdings	360	-9.8
C Holdings Bond 5	46	-1.7
Caesarea 1	5700	0
Canel	4280	0.5
Capital	830	1.2
Capital Bond A	117	0
Capnex	345	4.5
Cargal	557	-10
Carmel	509	-4
Carmel	460	0
Castro	488	0
Catalena 1	360	-8.9
CDI	148	0
Cemantecal Bond A	57.5	0
Cemantcal	212	0
Centra	140	0
Centre Bond 1	150	0
Cham	420	-4.5
Chayun Computers	177	0
Chemspal	405	0
Chim-Nir	331	-10.1
CI Systems	130.2	0
Cnaan	170	0
Cnal Computers	6600	-1.5
Cnal Retail	46000	0
Cohen Banu	167.4	-10
Cohen Dev.	155	0
Cohen MM	130	0
Cold Storage 1	1819	0
Cold Storage 5	8700	-2.7
Cold Storage and Supply Bond 1	0	0
Compi	150	7.1
Compi Warrent 1	24	0
Compulite	280	0
Comtech	409	0
Comtrans	829	0
Contal	941	-0.5
Contractors	21800	0
Coral Beach	873	-1.9
Credit Line	3.4	0
Credit Lines Bond A	33	0
Cyclone 1	2380	-9.2
Cyclone Bond 1	257	0
Cyclone Bond 2	172.8	0
Dafron	1545	0
Dafron Bond 1	274	0
Dalin	1.1	0
Dan Rent-A-Car	920	0
Dan Rent-A-Car Bond A	167	1.8
Danubar 1	4900	0
Danbar 5	10390	0
Danbar Bond A	266	0
Danbar Rosources	5260	0
Danbar Resources Bond B	176.6	-0.8
Dantzar Tech.	5340	0
Dantzar Technologies Bond A	165.1	0
Danrel	50	0
Danel Bond A	80.8	0.3
Danel Personnel	1679	-2.3
Danel Warrant 2	165	0
Dankner Bond 1	222	0
Dankner Bond 2	148	0
Dankner Bond 3	93	-0.1
Dankner Warrant C	454	0
Danly	535	0
Darad	113	0
DARBAN BOND 2	101.7	0
Darban Bond A	240	0
Darban Warrant 3	65	8.3
Darea	147	0
Darlon	300	0
Dash investment	783	0
Data	677	0
Dayason Systems	275	2.6
Degem Systems	410	0
Delek Drillings	19	-20.5
Delek Oil	1400	0
Destany	631	0
Digel	380	7
Dimri	1340	0
Dolev	257	-4
Dolev Bond A	143.5	0
Dolev warrant 1	23	0
Domcar	520	-1.8
Domcar Bond	164	1.3
Dor Berger	300	0
Dor Chem	342	0
Dor Energy	1229	1.6
Doric w1	40.9	0
Doros	50.8	0
Dorl cf	103.9	0
Dori Engineering	469	0
Dori Engineering Bond A	141	0
Dowrat Bond A	148	-0.6
Dowrat Shrem	1272	3.8
DSL	700	-3.2
Dubek M	4.1	0
Dubek S	4.1	0
Dunitz	240	0
DYG Industries	359	-5.1
E & M Computing	1198	0
Edgar Alban	44	0
Edgar Industries	185	0
Edgar Inv. Bond C	89.5	-0.6
Edgar Inv Warrant 5	16.7	2.5
Efrat Bond A	98	0
Eini	135	0
Efarn	369	0
Eitoraan	2810	-4.1
El Bad	2020	0
El Cand	435	0
El Cand Bond 1	173.4	-0.9
Elad	475	3.3
Elad Bond A	178	0
Elad Bond B	150.9	0
Elad c3	71.6	-0.3
Elad w5	27.9	0
Elbit Computers Bond B	135.2	-0.6
Eldan Tech.	165	-8.8
Electronics Line	534	0
Elgar	6000	0
Elitech Ind.	900	0
Elkam	285	-4
Ella	340	0
Elta Bond A	143	0
Elran	4490	-0.9
Emek	179	0
Emyla	765	-4.4
Engel Const.	550	0
ESE	1734	-0.2
Eshed Robotech	200	0
Even	425	-1.2
Evergreen	3350	0
Evrox Warrant 1	1540	0
Excelence	1578	0
Export Inv.	770	0
Extra	68.7	9.9
Feldman	77	0
Feldman Bond A	155	0
Feldman Ind.	2520	0
Feldman Warrant 3	3	0
Feuchtwanger 1	7760	-4
Feuchtwanger 5	37500	-3.8
Fidelity	1990	0
Five J Jewelers	371	0
Five J Jewelers Bond 2	143	0
Formica Source	110	0
Frutarom	386	-1.5
Gahelet	12100	-2.8
Galcom	125.7	-10
Gelman	1045	0
Gama	155.7	0
Gamatronic	669	0
Gambit	3400	3.7
Gan ShmoelBond A	113.8	-0.2
Gan ShmoelWarrant 3	452	-5.8
Gan Shmuel	1375	-3.8
Ganel Hadar	490	0
Gap Development	140	0
Gap Holdings	185	0
Gap Warrant 2	1.3	0
Gazit	630	0
Gazit Bond C	139	0.5
Gibor Bond 1	65	0
Gibor Bond A	85	-1.7
Gibor Sabrina	62	0
Gibor Sport	806	0
Gibor Warrant 2	103.9	0
Gilboa	76.2	0
Gillo	189	0
Gilteh	1630	0
Givot Olam Oil	147.3	-47.8
Glob Fin	791	-1
Golan	380	0
Gold	225	0
Golden House	512	0
Golden House Bond 1	254	3.9
Golan	206	0
Granit Bond	155.7	-1.5
Granit Bond 2	164.9	-3.2
Green Software	163.3	0
Greenberg	1360	0
H. Electronics	48.2	0
H. Mor	649	-2.3
Habas	3480	0
Habas Bond 1	147	0
Hadar 1	26000	-7.1
Hadar 5	88000	-2.2
Hadar Ins. 1	565	0
Hadar Ins. 5	3510	0
Hadarim Bond1	123.6	-0.1
Hadarim Warrant1	1065	6.5
Hagal	359	0
Hagal Bond B	193	0
Hamakor	120	-66.1
Hanal	8.5	-9.6
Hasin Esh	655	5.6
Hason	295	0
Hatahot 1	209	0
Hatehot Bond A	145.2	0
Hayal	1200	0
Hayal Bond2	159	0
Hayal Warrant 1	76.7	0
Hed Arzi Musac	326	0
Hiron 1	6800	0
Hiron 5	33000	-8.5
HL Service Bond 2	181	-9
HL Service Bond 3	158.1	0.8
HL Services	1450	-4
Hod	111	0
Hot	850	0
Hoffi	160.4	-1
Hydrolica	90	0
IES Industries	284	0
IES Warrant 1	37.5	0
Ilan Gat	118	0
Ilan Gat Bond A	155.6	0
ILDC Bond 6	268	-0.4
ILDC Hotels	360	0
ILDC Hotels Bond 1	186.5	0
ILDC Hotels Warrant 2	74.5	0
ILDC Insurance	360	0
ILDC Insurance Bond A	148.5	0
Imco	889	2.2
Ind Bld Warrant 3	14	-9.7
Ind Bldgs Rt	3.5	0
Ind.Dev.Bank C	345	0
Ind.Dev.Bank CC	3350	0
Ind.Dev.Bank CC 1	3350	-0.3
Ind.Dev.Bank Pref	1450	3.6
Independence Mort	69000	-2.8
Intercosma	802	0
Intergamma 1	2780	0
Intergamma 5	12000	0
Inventech	595	0
Iscal	1434	0
Iscro	4650	0
Ismacolor	936	0
Israel Corp. 5	141900	-0.1
Israel Lightsauge Bond 3	147.6	1.7
Israel Wire & Cables Bond C	191	0.3
Isralom	970	2.1
Isralom Bond C	87.5	0
Israrnco	2.9	-6.5
Issas 1	6780	0
Issas 5	29300	0
Israa Bond A	274	0
ISTA LINES	2290	0
Itay	1970	6.5
Itay Bond 1	61	0.6
Itay Warrant 1	390	0
Jafora Bond A	171.3	0
Jaysour	150	0
Jaysour Bond A	125	0
JEC Bond B	97.9	-0.1
Jerusalem Mort	195	0
Jerusalem Mortgage Bond 16	172.5	0
Jeunesse	30.2	0
JOEL	75	0
JOEL Bond 1A	240	0
JOEL Bond 2	137.7	1.2
JOEL Bond A	240	0
JOEL Warrant 3	2.2	-8.3
Kadmara	97	0
Kadouri	715	0
kalrica bond b	93	-1.1
kalrice warrant 1	81	0
Kalrit	1230	9
Kallcalit Bond A	93.7	0.8
Kallcalit warrant 2	175	-1.7
Kamour	320	-7.2
Kamour Bond G	137	-1.1
Kamsept	996	0
Kanal Warrant G	1	0
Kanicol	30	0
Kanicol Bond A	42.7	0
Kardan 1	440	0
Kardan 5	2180	4.3
Katz	126	0
Katz Bond A	84	0
Kedem Chemicals	3550	-5.1
Kenalex	455	0
Kesher	820	0
Kesher Bond A	159	1.7
Keter	570	5
Kind	15.7	0
Kind Bond A	41	-9.9
King	247	0
Kinnarel	169	0
Kisch Kirur	170	0
Kishrei Teufa	1192	0
Kital	220	0
Kital Bond A	170	0
Kital Bond A	103.5	-6.8
Kill Ind. 5	8750	-2.8
Koor Bond 5	148.3	-0.5
Kopel	280	0
Kopel Bond 1	273	0
La Nationale Bond A	150.9	0
La Nationale Pref	122	8.1
Lachish	1600	-0.7
Lamont	800	0
Lapidot Oil Exploration	1	0
Lapidot Oil Explorers	73	0
Lasers	389	-3.2
Lavlav	670	2.3
Lazrick Bldg.	385	-3
Lazrick Comm Ctrs	90	-3
Lazrick Commercial Centres Bond	159	0
Lazrack Ind Bldgs	293	0
Lazrack Industrial Bldgs. Bond A	154.9	0
Leader	1040	-1.3
Lego	409	0
Leumi Warrant 5	44	-7.4
Leventhal	660	0
Levi	519	0
Lew Bond A	143	0
Levi Bond B	92	0
Lew Warrant 2	35.9	4.1
Levinstein Bond A	94.5	1.6
Lewinstein Warrant 2	603	0
Levinstein	1426	0
Liber	360	8.5
Lidan	1350	0
Lifshir 1	124.8	0
Lifshr 5	400	0
Ligad	301	-4.1
Ligad Bond 1	150	0
Lighterage 1	601	-4.8
LIMS	270	0
Lipman	2920	2.5
Lipski	3456	-1.4
Lipski Bond A	182.5	0
Linaz Bond A	142.1	-0.6
Lodan	99.9	5.2
Lodzia 1	1255	0
Lodzia 4	4680	-10
Luhot Galil	22.7	0
Luhot Galil Bond 1	152	0
Lumar	2660	-6.6
Ma'ariv Bond A	134	-2
Maabarot	1139	1.9
Macpell	538	0
Macpell Bond A	142.1	0
Macpell Bond B	133	0
Macpell Bond C	76.8	-0.3
Macpell Warrant 3	34	-17.1
Mafil	445	0
Magam	122.6	9.4
Magum Bond A	180	0
Magum Bond B	135	0
Magaw	150	0
Magma	253	0
Magor 1	1600	0
Magor 5	8500	-10.5
Magor hldgs. Bond B	84	-0.6
Magor hldgs. Warrant 2	379	0
Maital	270	0
Mak	68	-2.9
Malta	432	0
Man	77	0
Man Bond A	239	0
Manitu	30	1
Marathon	90	0
Marathon insured	101.4	-0.6
Mario Lazrack Constr. Bond 1	182	0
Mario Lazrack Constr. Bond 2	158	1.2
Maritime Bank	1395	-2
Maritime Bank Bond B	155.5	0.6
Maschav	876	-2.4
Maschav	525	-3.5
Mashov	383	-0.3
Mashov	62	0
Matam	1318	0
Matav Warrant 1	1038	0
Maxima 1	392	0
Maxima 5	1402	0
Mazpek	709	0
Med. Hotels	39.6	0
Meditechnica	495	-2.4
Meditechnica Bond A	147.8	0
Meditechnica Bond B	85.3	0
Meditechnica Warrant 2	38	0
Mediterranean Hotels Bond A	71.5	0.7
Megason	57.5	0
Meimad	530	-5.4
Meir Ezra	1630	-4.1
Meir Ezra Bond B	268	0
Melek	266	0
Melissaron Bond B	96.5	0
Melissaron Warrant 3	40	0
Mendelson	245	0
Menofim	29	0
Menoran Ins. 5	7240	0
Mercazit	857	4.5
Merhav	140	0
Meyrav	185	0
Middle East Tube	290	0
Middle East Tube Bond A	119.4	0.1
Middle East Tube Warrant 2	9	0
Millmor Bond A	142	0
Millomar Bond B	81	0
Millomar Warrant 2	85	0
Milomor	1450	-3.8
Mimsav	107	0
Mina Line	808	0
Minzar	12400	-3
Mirage	216	0

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The Israel Airports Authority

BEN GURION PROJECT 2000

PUBLIC TENDER NO. C4030063
SUPER HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL SUB-STATION

The Israel Airports Authority (IAA) hereby requests Proposals from qualified Offerors meeting the below listed Pre-Conditions for the Construction of Super High Voltage Electrical Sub-Station for the Ben Gurion 2000 Project. the issue of this Tender follows Public Tender No. C4030054 which was cancelled by the IAA Tender Committee. The Work of this Contract generally includes managing and performing the supply, installation, and maintenance services during and following the Warranty Period, of high-voltage cable, transformers, switchgear, electrical terminations and/or splices,, and all other components for a complete, operable High Voltage electrical sub-station..

Preliminary Mandatory Requirements: This list summarizes the Pre-Conditions for an Offeror's Proposal to be Considered by the IAA. Only the complete language of the Pre-Conditions as stated in the RFP is binding. This text may be obtained by written request, submitted on company letterhead, to the PMF facsimile number stated below.

1. Offeror shall be registered under Classification of **Group A, Branch 160, Type 5 (unlimited)** under the State of Israel registration of Contractors for Construction Works (Classification of registered Contractors) 1988. [Foreign Offerors must comply with the requirements set forth in Appendix A, Part II of the RFP].
2. Offeror's minimum annual work in place for Electrical Construction Work in each of the last three (3) years was not less than the equivalent of **Ten Million U.S. Dollars ($10 Million).**
3. Offeror's records must indicate, for each of the last three (3) years, the cost paid directly for labor for at least sixty (60) persons (annual average).
4. Offeror has a minimum of six (6) years of High Voltage Electrical Construction experience and completed at least two (2) 161kV substations within the last five (5) years.
5. Offeror shall meet the staffing and personnel experience requirements specified in the RFP, Exhibit A.
6. Offeror shall meet the registration requirements for a legal entity stated in the RFP, Exhibit A.
7. Offeror shall meet the VAT and Israeli Tax Authorities' registration requirements stated in the RFP, Exhibit A.
8. Offeror shall provide an unconditional and irrevocable Bank Guarantee in the amount of **One Million Five Hundred Thousand New Israeli Shekels (1,500,000) New Israeli Shekels (NIS),** valid for a minimum of ninety (90) days from the Proposal Submission Date, as specified in the RFP, Exhibit E.
9. Joint Ventures are allowed to participate in the Tender in accordance with the conditions stated in the RFP, Part B. Section 2 and Exhibit A.
10. Offeror, if a foreign entity, shall sign the Commercial Cooperation Undertaking Attached to the Tender Documents.

Additional Preliminary Requirements:

Offeror's attention is drawn to the fact that the IAA has allocated a maximum budget for the Work, which is the subject matter of this RFP, in the amount of Twenty Two Million New Israeli Shekels (NIS 22,000,000) ("Maximum Budget") and consequently Proposals submitted by Offerors exceeding the Maximum Bubget shall not be considerd by the IAA.

Participation in the Tender Process is subject to the Offeror's satisfying all Preliminary Requirements as detailed in the mandatory Tender Regulations (1993), Clause 6 (a), (1), (2) and (3).

Proposal Documents: Tender Documents may be purchased until Proposal Submission Date for the non-refundable amount of Thirteen Thousand New Israeli Shekels (13,000 NIS), including VAT. Offerors who previously purchased Public Tender No. C4030054 will be entitled to obtain these documents free of charge.

Tender Documents are available from the Project Management Firm (PMF) Project Office located at Ben Gurion International Airport, starting 14 December, 1998 between the hours of 09:00 and 12:00, business days (Sunday through Thursday). Interested Offerors must contact the PMF Contracts Administrator, Mr. Zvi Peretz Cohen at telephone number: 972-3-977-4456 (Fax number 972-3-971-2956) a minimum of forty eight (48) hours in advance to arrange Site access. Interested parties may preview the Tender Documents prior to their purchase.

All qualifying Proposals shall be delivered in sealed envelopes/packages not later than 10:00 hours local time on or before 19 January 1999 to the appropriate tender box located in the Archive of the Airports Authority, Main Office, 2nd Floor, Room 113, Ben Gurion International Airport, Israel.

The IAA is not bound to accept the lowest Proposal or any Proposal whatsoever.

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Villa return to top

LONDON (AP) – Dion Dublin got the winner in the 83rd minute as Aston Villa rallied with three second-half goals yesterday to beat Arsenal 3-2 at Villa Park and regain first place in the Premier League.

Meanwhile, Wimbledon defeated slumping Liverpool 1-0 on Robbie Earle's 48th-minute goal.

Villa has 33 points followed by Manchester United (30), Chelsea (29), Middlesbrough (27), Leeds (26), Arsenal (26), West Ham (26), Wimbledon (26) and Leicester (24).

Arsenal, the defending league and FA Cup champions, pulled ahead 2-0 on two first-half strikes by Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp, who returned to the lineup after missing four games and pushed his season goal total to four.

But Villa rallied with a strike in the 62nd by Julian Joachim and then two by Dublin in the 65th and 83rd. Dublin, who got the winner on a 12-meter shot off a corner, has made Villa a title contender since moving earlier in the season from Coventry on a £5.75-million transfer.

Villa, which dropped out of first place on Saturday for the first time all season, moved back on top with 33 points to 30 for Manchester United.

In yesterday's other match, Wimbledon kept up Liverpool's misery with a 1-0 victory on a 48th-minute goal by Robbie Earle.

Wimbledon, the low budget team that defies critics, has reached the semifinals of League Cup and – with this win – moved into eighth place on 26 points.

Liverpool, which played well and deserved a least a tie, was doomed when Michael Owen missed a late penalty to tie on the eve of his 19th birthday.



CONSOLATION PRIZE – Greg Norman (l) congratulates Tiger Woods on his victory yesterday. (Reuters)

Internationals win Presidents Cup

MELBOURNE (AP) – Relentless from the start, determined to the end, the International team won its first Presidents Cup on a rainy Sunday at Royal Melbourne Golf Club that the Americans couldn't leave soon enough.

Not even Tiger Woods' 1-up victory over Greg Norman could keep the United States from its worst loss in the history of match play: International 20½, US1 ½.

"We creamed them," Steve Elkington said.

Craig Parry, who pulled off one of several stunning shots that carried the International team to a 14½ to 5½ lead after two days, steamrolled past Justin Leonard for a 5 and 3 victory. Thirty minutes later, Nick Price polished off David Duval 2 and 1, and the celebration was on.

"We had a sour taste in our mouths from last time," Parry said. "We wanted to have champagne in our mouths tonight."

Pour the biggest drink for Shigeki Maruyama, the mighty mite from Japan who won the hearts of the Australian gallery and carried the International team by winning all five of his matches. Only Mark O'Meara in 1996 has gone 5-0 in the Presidents Cup.

Some of the best matches of the day didn't even matter – Woods holding off a late charge by Norman, Fred Couples and Vijay Singh playing to a draw and Mark O'Meara winning 1-up over Stuart Appleby.

Until yesterday, the worst loss in US history was 16½ to 11½ to Europe in the 1985 Ryder Cup at The Belfry, which turned out to be the start of European domination in those matches.

Could the Presidents Cup be headed down the same path? "We came in here as underdogs and came out showing the force of International golf," Norman said.

It was vindication for an International team that had lost the first two Presidents Cup, and proof that moving outside the US does make a difference.

"What a great feeling for us, especially after the last two times," Price said after Duval conceded his par on the 17th hole.

Despite the move to Australia, both sides said these matches would not take on the warlike mentality of the Ryder Cup.

Samaranch: Corrupt members will be expelled

LAUSANNE (AP) – IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch yesterday promised to expel any members if they are found guilty of accepting bribes.

Samaranch said he was surprised at the allegations of corruption in the International Olympic Committee made by senior Swiss member Marc Hodler.

But he said the allegations would be considered by a special IOC panel looking into alleged rules violations by the Salt Lake group which won the 2002 Winter Games.

"If it is necessary, we will expel members if this commission feels these members are guilty," Samaranch said at a news conference. "After we get the recommendations of the panel, we will take the measures necessary to arrange the problem."

Samaranch said the IOC was intent on protecting the integrity of the organization and the Olympics as a whole. "If we have to clean, we will clean," he said. "After, the IOC will be even stronger than before."

Samaranch said the current situation was as serious for the IOC as the political boycotts of the 1980s and Ben Johnson's doping scandal at the 1988 Seoul Games.

"They were difficult moments, and now we are facing another difficult moment," he said. "I am sure that we will solve this problem. After the black day, the sun will come again."

Samaranch said he was taken aback by Hodler's allegations, which were made to reporters Saturday. Samaranch said Hodler should have brought his allegations first to the IOC executive board.

"For me, I was really surprised. If he has names and evidence, he must go to the executive board." Hodler said he believed four agents – including one IOC member – had been involved in vote-buying over the past 10 years. He said he thought that approximately 5 to 7 percent of the IOC members – currently numbering 115 – were open to bribery.

Samaranch denied that he had "muzzled" Hodler, as the Swiss official claimed earlier yesterday. He said he had told all members of the executive board that only he and director general Francois Carrad could speak to the media.

"This is not the first time I do this," he said.

Samaranch expressed his respect and admiration for Hodler and ruled out the possibility of expelling him from the IOC, an option the Swiss member had raised.

"Never, never, is anyone thinking to expel Mr. Hodler," Samaranch said.

The IOC also ruled out any possibility of stripping Salt Lake City of the games over alleged rules violations during the bid.

"No, there is not any kind of possibility," he said. "We trust the organizing committee of Salt Lake City."

The Salt Lake controversy centers on a scholarship program that provided nearly $400,000 in tuition and other assistance to 13 individuals – including six relatives of IOC members, mostly from Africa.

Samaranch said he expected the IOC inquiry to be wrapped up before the end of January.

Samaranch said the IOC would possibly consider a new procedure to eliminate the temptations for corruption in the selection of host cities. Under current rules, all IOC members have a vote.

Samaranch noted that it would be possible for the IOC to adopt the formula used by sports federations such as FIFA, world soccer's governing body, which assign their executive boards to select sites.

VOTE

Continued from Page 1

He stressed that none of these demands are new, but rather "integral parts of the Wye and Oslo agreements to which we are committed."

Asked if he thought the Palestinians could fulfill these demands before Friday, Netanyahu said it is "very unlikely."

While Netanyahu insisted his timing had nothing to do with internal pressures, a senior official in his office said that nothing would be decided before next week's no-confidence vote, scheduled for Monday.

Albright all but acknowledged that the timetable for redeployment has slipped, but stressed that the US does not accept what it sees as new demands placed on the Palestinians by the government.

"We've already said when the prime minister made that statement that the Wye Memorandum was signed, and that this [calling for a renunciation] was not one of the conditions."

Both Albright and national security adviser Sandy Berger reiterated that Clinton's trip to Gaza in no way endorses Palestinian statehood, but, according to Albright, it "makes a lot of sense to... be able to push the process forward and clarify [to Arafat] what is required to get the peace process back on track."

Clinton told a group of visiting members of Congress that the PNC session would satisfy Israel.

He spoke of how "we hope to get the cooperation we need to get from the Palestinians regarding the charter," Jon Fox, a Republican from Pennsylvania, said.

"He felt confident that Israel and the US would be pleased with the way the matter is effectuated," said Fox.

Fox also said that he and Sen. Arlen Specter will raise their demand for extradition to the US of Palestinians who have murdered Americans with Arafat during a meeting in Gaza today.

PA officials showed signs of flexibility over how the PNC would affirm the annulment. "We will do our best to show that the Palestinians are committed to the process and to all the commitments made already," said Hassan Asfour, director-general of the PA's Negotiations Affairs Department.

Asked if there would be a vote at the meeting, Asfour replied: "We still have time, and we will see if there is a vote."

Many of those invited to the gathering have said they will object to holding a vote on the issue.

"I don't agree to a ballot because we have already made this change in 1996," said Jamila Saidam, a legislator from Deir al-Balah in the Gaza Strip. "That is enough."

Saidam was referring to a PNC meeting two years ago which voted 504-54 with 14 abstentions to revoke clauses that contradicted mutual recognition and referred the document to a legal committee for amendment.

Today's gathering is actually not being billed as an official meeting of the PNC, which alone has the power to amend the charter, but rather of PNC members and heads of other Palestinian organizations. All of the members of the Palestinian Legislative Council have been invited.

Reuters last night quoted a senior Palestinian official as saying that participants at the meeting would either raise their hands, stand up, or clap when Arafat declares in front of Clinton that the gathering is expected to reaffirm what Covenant clauses have been revoked.

Israel could interpret this as a vote, but there would be no count and it would not be a PNC meeting, the official said.

In accordance with the Wye Memorandum, the Palestinian Central Council voted last week 81-7 with 36 abstentions to approve a letter by Arafat to Clinton specifying which clauses were annulled at the 1996 meeting.

Hundreds of Palestinian prisoners agreed yesterday to suspend a week-long hunger strike that was aimed at pressing for their release, Hisham Abdel-Razek, the PA minister for prisoner affairs, told the Associated Press. The step came at Arafat's request.

In Jerusalem, Clinton, who met alone with Netanyahu for some 15 minutes yesterday morning and then sat with the cabinet for over an hour, said at the press conference that the US has an unshakable commitment to Israel's security.

Clinton commended Netanyahu for the steps taken to implement the agreement, but he added that the PA has also taken some important steps.

Clinton enumerated those areas in which the PA had fulfilled its commitments, including deepening security cooperation, acting against terrorism, issuing decrees for the confiscation of illegal weapons, dealing with incitement, and taking concrete steps to reaffirm the decision to amend the Covenant.

A senior official in the Prime Minister's Office said that the Americans "simply were not willing to understand that we have real needs that must be met before we can go on with our part of the deal. We cannot go on with a peace process when our partners talk peace with one hand and shoot at us with the other. No matter what the Americans say."

David Bar-Illan, Netanyahu's communications director, added that the riots in the West Bank, for example, have to be stopped before any process could continue.

While some officials indicated that there would eventually be a compromise over prisoners, Bar-Illan said there is no such plan.

"Our position is so reasonable that it is unshakable," he said. "You cannot release murders, and you cannot release members of groups who say they plan to murder Israelis. Anyone who gives the Palestinians anything after such violence is feeding a beast that cannot be satiated."

Clinton did not directly address the question of prisoner release, but he spoke clearly against violence, saying that all disagreements have to be worked out through negotiations.

"If this were going to be easy," concluded Clinton, "it would have been done a long time ago."

ANALYSIS

Continued from Page 1

There is concern, however, over whether the PA is behind the present wave of intifada-style violence to press for the release of prisoners, or if it is the result of grassroots feelings.

"We obviously have a situation in which there were loose ends at Wye regarding which prisoners would be freed or not, coupled with deep mistrust between Israelis and Palestinians," said Avineri.

"The Palestinians, on the one hand, are being asked to revoke the clauses in the PLO's covenant that call for the destruction of Israel. On the other hand, it could be argued that the Herut heart of the Likud has never formally abandoned its ideology that Transjordan is part of greater Israel, even though everybody realizes that this is not an issue.

"When the Rabin-Peres government encountered difficulties with the PA leadership, they tried to work out mutually agreed solutions," Avineri said. "The Netanyahu strategy, on the other hand, is to use every difficulty as a means to avoid implementing agreements in which he doesn't really believe. Hence the mistrust."

PNC

Continued from Page 2

Netanyahu emphasized that he was speaking in Jerusalem, "The city that was rejoined and will never again be divided."

The speeches by Netanyahu and Clinton were enthusiastically received by the nearly 3,000 guests present.

The only other person to address the event was Ben Mayost, chairman of the National Student Council. He expressed the hope that the president will turn his courageous vision into a long-lasting reality. The festive atmosphere could be partly attributed to the natural enthusiasm of the youth given the honor of representing their different religious, non-religious and Arab schools from around the country. But it might also be related to what can only be described as a "warm up act."

Singers Haim Moshe and the Reim Duo appeared before the official part of the ceremony and got the crowd signing along before a candle-lighting ceremony by Education Minister Yitzhak Levy and the more official part of the event. The Ankor Children's Choir rendered both countries' national anthems – again to wild applause. In a security man's nightmare, the Israeli youth rushed towards the stage after the event vying for the chance to shake Clinton's hand, and, in the case of more than one schoolgirl, successfully aiming to kiss him on the cheek.

England batting collapse destroys Ashes hopes

ADELAIDE (Reuters) – England's hopes of winning back the Ashes that Australia have held since 1989 collapsed in a heap on a crumbling Adelaide Oval pitch yesterday.

Another sickeningly familiar English batting collapse in the hour before lunch put Australia in a commanding position and by the close of the third day they had built up an overall lead of 314.

Australia's batsmen brushed aside an accurate but less than threatening English attack to be 150 for one in their second innings by the close, with Michael Slater on 74 not out.

But it was the English batting collapse in the morning session that seems certain to have handed Australia victory in this third Test and allowed the home team to retain the Ashes for the sixth consecutive series.

England's middle and lower order disintegrated in the face of Stuart MacGill's often vicious leg spinners and the sustained pace of Glen McGrath.

Only a gritty 89 not out by Nasser Hussain kept the collapse from turning into complete capitulation.

The visitors lost seven wickets for just 40 runs in the last hour before lunch to be all out for 227, extending a depressingly familiar run of batting collapses on this tour.

In the first Test in Brisbane, England lost their last six wickets for 60 runs in the first innings and their last five wickets for 65 in the second.

MacGill was the destroyer in that second innings and only a tropical thunderstorm that flooded the ground on the last day saved England from defeat.

But in the second Test in Perth England showed they could do even worse when they lost their last seven first innings wickets in the first innings for 50 runs.

A second innings collapse of five wickets for 33 runs sealed their fate and they lost the Perth Test inside three days by seven wickets.

England will need a miracle to avoid defeat in this third Test, especially with the frightening amount of bite, bounce and turn MacGill is extracting from the pitch.

The leg-spinner took four for 53 in England's first innings, including one spell of three for eight runs off eight balls.

The defining moment was the dismissal of Graeme Hick for eight when England were still comfortable at 210 for five.

MacGill enticed Hick forward into a drive and found the edge with a ball that spun viciously and went directly towards Mark Taylor at first slip.

Middle order batsman John Crawley's position must now be in doubt after another failure, with his five runs here taking his total in three Test innings on tour to 24.

In damning evidence of the fragility of its lower order, England has averaged just nine runs per wicket in the last nine Tests against South Africa, Sri Lanka and Australia, collapsing 13 times.

Scoreboard

Yesterday at slumps on the third day of the third Test at the Adelaide Oval: Australia won the toss

Australia, 1st innings 391

England, 1st innings

Overnight 160 for three

Mark Butcher lbw b Miller	6
Mike Atherton c Taylor b MacGill	41
Nasser Hussain not out	89
Alec Stewart c Slater b Miller	0
Ramprakash c MWaugh b McGrath	61
John Crawley b McGrath	5
Graeme Hick c Taylor b MacGill	8
Dean Headley lbw b MacGill	0
Darren Gough c Healy b MacGill	7
Alan Mullally b Fleming	0
Peter Such lbw b Fleming	0
Extras (1b, 3b, 1w, 5nb)	10
TOTAL:	227 all out

Fall of wickets: 18, 83, 84, 187, 195, 210, 210, 226, 227, 227.

Bowling: Glenn McGrath 18-4-48-2 (1w, 5nb), Damien Fleming 10.5-2-34-2, Colin Miller 23-6-71-2, Stuart MacGill 28-6-53-4, Mark Waugh 3-0-17-0.

Batting time: 311 minutes. Overs: 82.5

Australia, 2nd innings

Mark Taylor lbw b Such	23
Michael Slater not out	74
Justin Langer not out	34
Extras (10b, 1w, 2nb)	13
TOTAL:	150 for one

Fall of wicket: 54.

Bowling: Darren Gough 10-2-28-0, Alan Mullally 11-4-12-0, Dean Headley 11-1-42-0 (2nb), Peter Such 16-3-32-1 (1w), Mark Ramprakash 11-1-25-0, Graeme Hick 1-0-1-0.

Batting time: 244 minutes. Overs: 60

Zimbabwe-Pakistan

Zimbabwe 183 and 48-0 v Pakistan (325-9 dec)

Zimbabwe were 48 for no wicket in their second innings when bad light stopped play on the fourth day of the second Test against Pakistan in Lahore yesterday.

2 top Brazilian athletes die in car crash

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) – A car crash in a southern state has killed two top Brazilian athletes, *TV Globo* reported yesterday.

Long-jumper Douglas de Souza, 26, and triple-jumper Gustavo Lima Pinto, 21, died Saturday when the car they were traveling in smashed into a pillar, the TV station said.

Souza, who competed in the 1996 Olympics, holds the South American long-jump record of eight meters and 40 centimeters.

The crash happened on an interstate near Porto Alegre, the state capital of Rio Grande de Sul, 960 miles southeast of Rio, said the station.

Primeau returns to haunt Wings

GREENSBORO (AP) – Keith Primeau scored against his old team and the Carolina Hurricanes rewarded the first sellout crowd in their 58-game history at the Greensboro Coliseum with a 3-0 victory over Detroit on Saturday night.

Sabres 4, Bruins 1

Miroslav Satan scored two goals and Dominik Hasek stopped 36 shots for his league-leading 15th win as host Buffalo defeated Boston n a matchup of surging teams.

The win extended the Sabres' unbeaten streak to seven games (6-0-1) and halted Boston's at eight. The Bruins were 6-0-2 before Saturday.

Devils 5, Avalanche 3

Bobby Holik scored two goals, including the game-winner in the third period, as the streaking New Jersey Devils ended visiting Colorado's five-game winning streak.

Lightning 2, Islanders 1 (OT)

Benoit Hogue's goal with 47.3 seconds left in overtime led Tampa Bay to a road win in a battle of struggling teams.

Chris Gratton, reacquired in a multi-player trade with Philadelphia earlier in the day, made his debut with Tampa Bay and picked up an assist.

Flyers 3, Maple Leafs 0

John LeClair scored his 20th goal of the season and John Vanbiesbrouck made 23 saves as Philadelphia stopped Toronto's seven-game home winning streak.

Valeri Zelepukin and Eric Lindros also scored for Philadelphia. Lindros, with his fifth goal in his last three games, leads the NHL in scoring with 39 points. LeClair, who tied Chicago's Tony Amonte for the league lead in goals, also had an assist for 36 points.

Canadiens 2, Predators 2

Despite Jonas Hoglund's third goal in three games, visiting Montreal's winless streak stretched to six when they tied Nashville.

Hoglund tied a Montreal high this season for goals in consecutive games. His fifth goal came on a hard wrist shot from the left circle with 1:58 left in the second period to pull Montreal into the 2-2 tie.

Flames 4, Panthers 2

Theo Fleury scored the deciding goal and rookie goaltender Jean Sebastien Giguere had 36 saves to lead Calgary to a road win.

Penguins 4, Blues 3

Alexei Kovalev scored twice and Jaromir Jagr had a goal and an assist, leading Pittsburgh to an away win.

Pittsburgh scored four goals in a 1:39 span to lead 4-2 after the first period.

Coyotes 2, Senators 0

Nikolai Khabibulin stopped 42 shots and Jyrki Lumme scored the game-winner in the second period as Phoenix notched a road win.

Teppo Numminen scored an empty-net goal for Phoenix, undefeated in four games (3-0-1). The win gave the Coyotes 37 points, one more than the idle Dallas Stars for top spot in the NHL. Phoenix is 5-1 against the Eastern Conference this season.

Kings 3, Canucks 0

Stephane Fiset earned his 13th career shutout and Luc Robitaille extended his goal-scoring streak to four games as Los Angeles celebrated Rob Blake's return to the lineup with a home victory.

Fiset finished with 25 saves against a team averaging a league-worst 24 shots on net.

Sharks 2, Capitals 1

Jeff Friesen broke out of a slump by scoring twice on the power play and host San Jose end its six-game winless streak.

Friesen put together his 16th career two-goal game in the second period, when San Jose outshot the Capitals 17-3.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	17	7	3	37	81	67
Philadelphia	13	9	5	31	76	62
Pittsburgh	11	7	7	29	75	67
N.Y. Rangers	10	11	7	27	72	71
N.Y. Islanders	10	18	0	20	69	83
Northeast Division						
Buffalo	15	5	5	35	73	45
Toronto	16	11	2	34	86	83
Boston	12	8	6	30	67	51
Ottawa	13	10	3	29	77	64
Montreal	8	16	4	20	63	83
Southeast Division						
Carolina	13	11	5	31	77	67
Florida	9	11	6	24	66	74
Washington	8	16	3	19	57	74
Tampa Bay	8	18	2	18	61	102

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	16	10	1	33	87	66
St. Louis	9	9	6	24	63	58
Nashville	10	14	3	23	62	80
Chicago	9	16	3	21	66	95
Northwest Division						
Colorado	13	12	2	28	69	72
Edmonton	13	13	2	28	81	75
Calgary	11	15	2	24	77	80
Vancouver	10	14	4	24	78	83
Pacific Division						
Phoenix	17	3	3	37	68	37
Dallas	16	5	4	36	72	52
Anaheim	10	11	6	26	62	66
Los Angeles	8	17	3	19	60	77
San Jose	6	14	7	19	57	68

Whatever happened to $14 million?

Payroll disparities threaten baseball's competitive balance

MY CALL
By ROSS NEWHAN

NASHVILLE – Make no mistake: The Los Angeles Dodgers' pursuit and acquisition of Kevin Brown to an industry-infuriating, payroll-jolting contract that is the largest in baseball history was a case of damned if they do and damned if they don't.

In the same room Saturday in which General Manager Kevin Malone was announcing and defending the seven-year, $105-million contract that will still be paying the 33-year-old power pitcher $15 million a year when he is 40, Sandy Alderson, the former Oakland Athletic general manager who is now baseball's executive vice president, stood against a wall and showered Malone and the Dodgers with damnation.

Others raised their voice in disapproval of a deal that smacked of the latest and most grievous excess in a winter of economic excess, but Alderson delivered the weight of the commissioner's office as he dismissed comments by Malone – both from the podium and in the news release accompanying the announcement – that his club was sensitive to the industry's concerns and the expanding payroll disparity.

Alderson pointed to the release and said Malone's comments were a "direct affront and insult to the commissioner and baseball. To suggest in spite of this signing that they are concerned about the disparity and fiscal risks associated with the industry is nonsense."

Malone, of course, knew this was coming, knew there would be negative industry reaction, which is why he included his comments in the release.

The same Malone who often ripped the big markets when general manager of the small-market Montreal Expos insisted the Dodgers are sensitive to industry problems and cognizant of their responsibility but weren't negotiating in a vacuum.

"The problems have to be addressed at the collective bargaining table and not by attacks on individual clubs," he said. "I can't change the limitations on the small market teams. "We strongly considered the implications, and if we hadn't done this, somebody else would have. There was money on the table. A couple clubs would have gone beyond what we paid. To criticize the Dodgers for using their resources in the best interest of our fans is unfair."

It is not clear that there was money on the table or that a couple of clubs would have gone beyond what the Dodgers paid.

The San Diego Padres, trying to retain Brown, were left in the dust at six years and $60m. The Colorado Rockies, Baltimore Orioles and St. Louis Cardinals were in the hunt, but had not gone beyond a sixth year, if they had gone that far.

The Dodgers iced the deal at seven. Their $15m-a-year offer left many wondering what happened to $14m a year, a plateau no player had crossed. Their $105m deal left many wondering why Brown, a Macon, Georgia, resident, couldn't afford the 12 charter jet trips for his family from Georgia to California that the Dodgers are throwing in as a little icing.

"Sometimes money isn't the only important thing," Malone said. "Sometimes it comes down to the personal touch."

And sometimes, of course, a club has to do what is in its own best interest, which is often the case in baseball, where widening disparities in payroll and revenue are threatening competitive balance and generating hints of another Armageddon with the players' union when the current labor agreement expires after the 2001 season.

Malone called Brown a priority in the process of reestablishing a winning tradition and buying time to rebuild the farm system.

Larry Lucchino, president of Brown's former San Diego team, saw it another way. He said the contract represented an apocalypse and confirmed the fears of many in the industry when Rupert Murdoch was awaiting approval as the Dodger owner.

The sniping Alderson touched on this when asked if he could really be surprised that the Dodgers now have a record payroll of $85m, given Murdoch's resources and the concerns when he took over.

At that price, the Dodgers will be expected to win and should win – their division, at least, which their confident new manager acknowledged.

"I have to say we're the favorites," Davey Johnson said in discussing the addition of Brown, "but then I always expect to win. I put that pressure on myself. I don't care if the payroll is $85 million or $25 million, like it was in Cincinnati and my early years in New York."

The $105m that the Dodgers have guaranteed Brown is more than the cumulative payrolls of Minnesota, Cincinnati, Florida, Oakland, Pittsburgh and Montreal in 1998.

Atlanta General Manager John Schuerholz was one of the few at the winter baseball meetings not floored by the deal, having become jaded by the series of signings that have seen six players this winter either tie or better the previous record for average annual value with a seventh, Roger Clemens, still to come and obviously salivating over Brown's new market standard.

"One thing is certain," Schuerholz said. "Kevin Brown can certainly afford that new $4-million mansion he's building in Macon, Georgia. "Think about it.... Maybe he's actually building Macon."

Urban renewal? This was more about Dodger renewal. In today's market, can they really be blamed?

(Los Angeles Times)

Brown, Dodgers break $100m-barrier

NASHVILLE (AP) – Kevin Brown became the first big league baseball player to get a $100 million contract, agreeing on Saturday to a $105m, seven-year deal with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The deal set a record both for total dollars and average annual salary ($15m). The previous high for average salary in Major League Baseball, $13.33m, was set less than two weeks ago, when first baseman Mo Vaughn agreed to an $80m, six-year contract with the Anaheim Angels.

The previous high for dollars was set in October, when catcher Mike Piazza agreed to a $91m, seven-year deal with the New York Mets.

"We think Kevin Brown is a big part of our future," Dodgers general manager Kevin Malone said. "We're comfortable with the terms. We feel like we logically evaluated the marketplace. We needed the player, we wanted the player and we made the commitment to our fans to becoming a winning team."

Breaking the $100m mark is sure to bring an outcry among some club owners against Australian-born media mogul Rupert Murdoch, who took over the Dodgers in March. With Murdoch's billions, Los Angeles has made major upgrades in an effort to return to the World Series for the first time since 1988.

Brown gets a $5m signing bonus, $10m next year and $15m in each of the following six seasons. As part of the deal, the Dodgers will give him the use of a private plane 12 times per season to commute to Los Angeles from his home in Macon, Georgia. He also gets a no-trade clause.

Anaheim, Baltimore, Colorado and St. Louis also were among the finalists for Brown, a 33-year-old right-hander who went 18-7 with a 2.38 ERA for San Diego this year. He helped Florida win the World Series in 1997, then was traded to the Padres as part of the Marlins' payroll purge and helped San Diego reach for the World Series for the first time since 1984.

Duke routs Wolverines; Terps lose first

DURHAM (AP) – Trajan Langdon scored 24 points and No. 3 Duke shot 59 percent in a 108-64 victory over Michigan on Saturday night, the most lopsided defeat in Wolverines' history.

Louis Bullock scored 18 points to lead Michigan (5-6), which shot 43% (26-of-60) and committed 19 turnovers that led to 29 Duke points.

The Blue Devils (9-1) improved to 118-2 against nonconference opponents in Cameron Indoor Stadium. The Wolverines were the last nonconference team to beat Duke at home, winning 62-61 in 1996, and had won the last three meetings in the series.

The margin of victory was two points higher than Michigan's previous worst defeat, a 42-point loss to Indiana in 1991.

No.5 Kentucky 103
No.2 Maryland 91

Heshimu Evans had a career-high 31 points and Scott Padgett went 4-for-4 on 3-pointers as host Kentucky handed No. 2 Maryland its first loss of the season.

Padgett finished with 25 points and 13 rebounds for his second double-double of the season.

The Wildcats (9-1) took charge with a 21-8 run over the last 6:27 of the first half that was capped by Padgett's buzzer-beating 3-pointer from the top of the key that gave Kentucky a 54-41 halftime lead and brought the Rupp Arena crowd to its feet with a roar.

Seton Hall 80
No. 13 Syracuse 64

Rimas Kaukenas scored 21 points and Gary Saunders added 16 Saturday night as host Seton Hall used its long-range shooting to subdue the Orangemen.

It was the second straight win in the Carrier Dome after 16 losses for Seton Hall (6-3, 2-0). The Pirates, who beat Syracuse 85-61 last year for its first-ever victory here, never trailed thanks to their stunning accuracy and Syracuse's inept play.

Seton Hall hit 10 of 15 shots from 3-point range and held the Orangemen to 1-of-13 shooting from beyond the arc.

No. 4 Cincinnati 91
SW Louisiana 65

Melvin Levett scored 22 points and led a late 25-5 spurt as Cincinnati wore down the visitors.

The Bearcats (6-0) substituted liberally and went soft in the second half, when Southwestern Louisiana (3-3) cut a 25-point deficit to 11 before fading. Levett had nine points in the decisive spurt that followed.

Pete Mickeal added 16 points and a team-high seven rebounds for Cincinnati, which had four players in double figures.

It was Cincinnati's last game without Jermaine Tate, a transfer from Ohio State who has sat out for a year and is eligible to play.

No. 15 UCLA 72, UNLV 67

Baron Davis hit two free throws with 36 seconds remaining and freshman JaRon Rush had a key steal and a basket with 10 seconds left as UCLA escaped with a home victory.

The Bruins, who trailed by 13 points in the second half after leading by that many in the opening 20 minutes, outscored the Runnin' Rebels 26-8 over the final 11:59, but had to scramble in the closing minutes.

No. 7 North Carolina 75
N.C. Charlotte 73 (OT)

Brendan Haywood's follow shot at the buzzer gave the host Tar Heels (10-1) their second overtime win over the 49ers in as many meetings.

North Carolina, which had to go to overtime to beat the 49ers (6-3) in the second round of the NCAA tournament last season, led by 10 at halftime.

The Tar Heels scored the first five points in overtime to take a 69-64 lead, but the 49ers, who had two starters foul out in the extra period, rallied to tie it at 70-70 on a layup by Charles Hayward.

Ed Cota and Diego Guevara then traded 3-pointers in the final 28 seconds – Guevara hitting his seventh of the game with 11 seconds remaining.

Cota dribbled down to the left corner and threw up a contested 10-foot jumper, which was long. Ademola Okulaja got a hand on the rebound, which came to the 7-foot Haywood. He grabbed it with two hands and put it in as the horn sounded.

No. 10 Kansas 107, USC 78

Kenny Gregory had 27 points and Eric Chenowith had 23 – both career-highs – as the host Jayhawks handed the Trojans their first loss of the season.

Kansas was playing its first game since an 85-81 loss to Iowa on Tuesday stopped the school-record 62-game home winning streak.

No. 11 Indiana 81
Bowling Green 55

A.J. Guyton scored 21 points and Luke Recker added 13 as the host Hoosiers (10-2) won the 25th Indiana Classic.

Len Matela led Bowling Green (5-3) with 15 points.

College Basketball Top 25

How the top 25 teams in The AP's poll fared Saturday

1. Connecticut (8-0) beat No. 20 Pittsburgh 70-69.
2. Maryland (10-1) lost to No. 5 Kentucky 103-91.
3. Duke (8-1) beat Michigan, 108-64.
4. Cincinnati (6-0) beat Southwestern Louisiana 91-65.
5. Kentucky (9-1) beat No. 2 Maryland 103-91.
6. Stanford (5-2) did not play.
7. North Carolina (10-1) beat North Carolina Charlotte 75-73, OT.
8. Arizona (4-0) did not play.
9. Purdue (9-1) vs. La Salle.
10. Kansas (6-2) beat Southern California 107-78.
11. Indiana (10-2) beat Bowling Green 81-55.
12. New Mexico (6-0) did not play.
13. Syracuse (7-3) lost to Seton Hall 80-64.
14. Michigan State (5-3) did not play.
15. UCLA (5-2) beat UNLV 72-67.
16. Temple (4-4) did not play.
17. Clemson (8-1) beat NCarolina-Asheville 73-64.
18. St. John's (8-2) beat Virginia 95-68.
19. Oklahoma State (5-2) beat Arkansas-Little Rock 88-41.
20. Pittsburgh (7-4) lost to No. 1 Connecticut 70-69.
21. Tennessee (6-3) did not play.
22. Washington (4-3) did not play.
23. Arkansas (6-2) did not play.
24. Minnesota (6-3) beat Eastern Michigan 72-53.
25. Utah (5-4) lost to Texas 73-68.



FOUL PLAY – Duke's Nate James (l) is fouled on his way to the hoop by Michigan's Josh Asselin in first-half action. (Reuters)

'We're going nowhere'

Talks break off after less than ½ hour

NEW YORK (AP) – After lasting less than 30 minutes, negotiations aimed at stopping the lockout in the NBA ended abruptly Saturday.

It was a sign that the 1998-99 pro basketball season could be in more serious jeopardy than ever as the sides fight over the terms of a new collective bargaining agreement. And it now appears certain that a season – if there is one – won't begin until the end of January or early February.

Commissioner David Stern, deputy commissioner Russ Granik and their lawyers emerged dour-faced from the union's law office after the meeting, which was one of the shortest in length since the lockout began 5½ months ago.

"We're getting nowhere," Granik said. "We learned today that basically nothing has changed at all."

No new talks are scheduled.

"The reality is that the issues that we raised were extremely significant and pertinent, but they continue to be intransigent," union director Billy Hunter said. "We're trying, we'll continue to try, but it's still a situation where it's necessary for us to fall on the sword."

The lockout is essentially a strike by the owners. Under American labor law, without a contract – or in this case a collective bargaining agreement, owners can prohibit – or lock out – players from working until a deal is reached.

The collective bargaining agreement (CBA) is the ground rules which sets things like minimum salaries, pension and health insurance benefits, roster limits and a salary cap.

The biggest issue in this work stoppage is money. The owners have insisted on maximum salary costs and the union has refused to accept a "hard" salary cap.

The league has a limit each team can spend on salaries, but the so-called "Larry Bird" exemption allows clubs to disregard the cap to re-sign their own free agents. It virtually makes the salary cap an invisible ceiling.

So far, the first two months of the season have been scrapped as the sides have fought over how to divide about $2 billion in projected annual revenues.

The owners have asked for a 50-50 split, while the players want to receive 60 percent.

Dutch gold

NAGANO (AP) – Olympic gold medalist Catriona LeMay Doan looked set to sweep the women's sprints, but after a minor mishap in the final race yesterday, had to settle for three of four possible golds at the Nagano World Cup speedskating championship.

Competing in the 1,000 meters after winning the 500 in the second round of the two-day event, the 27-year-old Canadian had to slow down, missing a few strokes, to let Eriko Sanmiya of Japan switch into the outside lane.

Sanmiya admitted she was at fault.

The two were attempting their fourth 1-2 finish in the same twosome, with Sanmiya seeking her fourth silver in two days.

After the setback, LeMay Doan finished fifth in 1 minute, 18.88 seconds, 0.97 second off the pace. Sanmiya was 16th with an unimpressive time of 1:19.94.

On Saturday, the Canadian star skated 1:18.07 for the gold and the Japanese skater 1:19.49 for the silver. LeMay Doan also took the gold in the 500.

Canada's Jeremy Wotherspoon took the men's 500 meters after Olympic gold medalist and world record holder Hiroyasu Shimizu fell while negotiating a corner.

Williams overwhelming choice for Heisman Trophy

NEW YORK (AP) – Ricky Williams of the University of Texas ran away with it all – the rushing records, the recognition and finally, overwhelmingly, the Heisman Trophy on Saturday night.

Williams, who broke Tony Dorsett's career rushing record in grand style and set dozens more records along the way, was a landslide winner over Kansas State quarterback Michael Bishop, winning by a 1,563 points – the fourth-largest margin in Heisman history.

The 6-foot, 225-lb San Diegan with dreadlocks, pierced tongue and Mickey Mouse tattoo, ran for 2,124 yards and 27 touchdowns in one of the most sensational seasons in college football history.

"I want to thank my beautiful mother, she raised three kids alone," Williams said seconds after becoming the first Heisman winner with dreadlocks, bleached, no less. "It's a pleasure to be with so many great players present and past.

Not only did Williams win nearly every other individual award – the AP College Player of the Year and Walter Camp, Maxwell and Doak Walker awards – he also carried the Longhorns to an 8-3 record and a berth in the Cotton Bowl.

Williams set or tied 16 NCAA and 44 schools records, including career marks for yards (6,279), scoring (452 points), touchdowns (75) and all-purpose yards (7,206).

Williams collected 714 first-place votes and 2,355 points from the 920 Heisman voters in winning college football's most precious prize. Bishop had 41 first-place votes and 792 points.

UCLA quarterback Cade McNown was third with 696 points, Kentucky's Tim Couch was fourth with 527 points and Syracuse quarterback Donovan McNabb fifth with 232 points.

The largest margin of victory in the Heisman was in 1968, when Southern California's O.J. Simpson beat Purdue's Leroy Keyes by 1,750 points. In 1993, Florida State's Charlie Ward won the Heisman by 1,622 points over Tennessee's Heath Shuler; and in 1991, Michigan's Desmond Howard won by 1,574 points over Florida State's Casey Weldon.

Williams' Heisman-defining moment occurred against Texas' biggest rival – Texas A&M – in the final regular-season game. Needing 11 yards to top Dorsett's record late in the first quarter, Williams was looking to break a big one.

He left a tackler at the line of scrimmage, shed another a few yards later and raced down the left sideline as 84,000 hometown fans stood and screamed in delight. Near the goal line, cornerback Jason Webster caught him, but Williams dragged him the final yards to complete a record-smashing 60-yard touchdown run.

"I was exhausted," said Williams, who ended up with 259 yards in the 26-24 upset of the Aggies. "I came to the sideline and I was mobbed by the whole team. I couldn't breathe and I was trying to say help, but I couldn't get anything out."

Williams, fifth in last year's balloting, nearly passed on returning to Austin. Just when it looked like he would leave for the riches of the NFL, though, he changed his mind, saying he was coming back to win games, have fun and break some records.

Williams entered the season needing 1,928 yards to break Dorsett's 22-year-old record.

His quest seemed impossible. The Longhorns, with a new coach in Mack Brown, had one of the nation's worst defenses in going 4-7 last season and had only inexperience at quarterback.

"Every coordinator in the country had circled Ricky's name and there's absolutely no way a guy can get 1,800 or so yards," Brown said. "We had 23 1,000-yard rushers at North Carolina. I never thought of a guy getting 2,000."



IN A LANDSLIDE – Texas's Ricky Williams with the Heisman Trophy. (Reuters)

But Williams isn't just any guy. As a freshman, he joked about how he'd win a Heisman and put his trophy in a glass case at Texas' T lounge. He gave himself an e-mail address with the word Heisman in it.

He plays video games. He visits kids in school and in the hospital. He's one fun-loving kid himself.

After Texas lost twice in the first three games – Williams was stopped cold for 43 yards on 25 carries by Kansas State in game No. 3 – the tailback went on a tear. He set an NCAA record with consecutive 300-yard games against Rice and Iowa.

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

CRITIC'S CHOICE

HANUKKA

HELEN KAYE

"All for one and one for all." That famous phrase takes to the boards in the musical *The Three Musketeers*, with Zvika Hadar at the Tel Aviv Cinerama today and tomorrow at 4 and 6:15 p.m, and on Wednesday at 9:15 and 11:45 a.m; 2:15, 4:45 and 7:15 p.m. At the converted Tel Aviv Cinema it's *Beauty and the Beast*, with the wonderful Eli Gorenstein at 6 p.m; tomorrow at 4 and 7 p.m; Wednesday at 10 a.m, 1, 4 and 7 p.m. (All programs in Hebrew)



Brendan Gleeson and Peter McDonald star in 'I Went Down.'

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ **I WENT DOWN** – In its lesser moments, Irish director Paddy Breathnach's film feels like a broguish Tarantino rip-off. The Celtic low-lifes and crumbums who populate the movie spend much of their time driving past green misty fields as they shoot the breeze pungently and prepare to carry out some criminal act of a deliberately vague sort.

In its better, less self-conscious parts, though, the film nimbly asserts it own easy-going comic rhythms and allows the characters room and time to develop their dry repartee. The filmmakers also manage to take that American genre – the road movie – and turn it into something whose dry wit, lilting pace and off-beat characters seem Irish to the core. With Brendan Gleeson and Peter McDonald as an odd couple of likable losers. (Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

★★★★ **WASHINGTON SQUARE** – Of the recent attempts to bring Henry James to the screen, Polish-born director Agnieszka Holland's movie is the most sensitive and quietly alert to the writer's own rhythms and tone. Holland sets her sights with modesty and intelligence at respectfully dramatizing the 1880 novel, about a well-off widower doctor (Albert Finney) and his only child, homely awkward Catherine Sloper (Jennifer Jason Leigh), who meets and falls head-over-heels in love with a handsome young man (Ben Chaplin), who may or may not be a fortune hunter.

Both lovely to look at and remarkably true to most of the novel's moral and psychological nuance, the movie may not be earthshattering, but it has an admirable seriousness and dignity about it, and Leigh is especially fine in her evolving role. Maggie Smith is also terrific as her silly, meddling aunt. (Not recommended for children.)

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Vorisek: Piano Sonata in B flat op 20; Dvorak: String Quintet in G op 77
7:07 Wolf: Italian Serenade; Debussy: Ariettes oubliées; Alkan: Sonatina op 61; Ginastera: Pampeana no op 16 - Rhapsody for Violin and Piano
8:05 Monteverdi: Madrigal (tragi-comedy arranged for voices); Purcell: Sing to the Lord a New Song; Gesualdo: Canzona and Galliard; Purcell: Psalm 62; Corelli: Sonata in E minor for Flute and Continuo; Kapsberger: Toccata and Ballo (Tragicomedia)
9:05 Cracow Trio – Eastern European Jewish music; Lior Novak: Quartet for Flute, Clarinet, Bassoon and Harp; New Polyphony of Corsica
12:00 Light Classical: Mendelssohn, Glazunov, Sarasate and Ravel
13:00 Artist of the Week – Zakir Hussein. From his album *Making Music*
14:06 Encore - symphonies by Randall Thompson and Roy Harris
15:00 Composition Cycles
16:00 Early music
17:00 Etnahta – live from Henry Crown Auditorium, Jerusalem. Vera Weidman, violin / Emanuel Krasovsky, piano. Beethoven: Sonata no 1 in D major op 12/1; Janacek: Sonata for Violin and Piano; Schumann: Sonata no 2 in D minor op 121; Jan Radzynski: Ragtime
19:00 Rainbow of Sounds – Bach
20:05 Beethoven: Serenade in D for String Trio op 8; Prokofiev: Sonata no 2 in D for Violin and Piano op 94a ; Delius: A Song Before Sunrise
21:00 A Matter of Agreement
23:00 Just Jazz

■ RADIOWEST

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWEST local news
6:00 Morning Drive with David Starck (until 9:00)
7:45 Sports Update
8:08 Lions Trust Financial Update
9:00 Morning Brunch with Michal Cohen (until 12:00)
10:00 Home Sweet Home with Tamar Yonah
12:00 The Aliya Show
13:00 Memory Lane with Rebecca E.
14:00 M & M's Pick 'n' Mix
16:00 Special Hanukka Afternoon Drive with Mike Reinis (until 19:00)
17:45 Sports Update
19:00 Acoustic Cafe with Dani Livni – acoustic, country and more
21:00 West Sport with Danny Gewirtz and Jeremy Gavzy
22:00 West Rock with Marc Berman
1:00 Late Night Music

■ BBC WORLD SERVICE

6:00 The World Today
7:00 The World Today
8:00 The World Today
9:00 World News
9:15 Off the Shelf: Playback
9:30 The Vintage Chart Show
10:00 World News
10:10 Pause for Thought
10:15 Movie Call
11:00 World News
11:05 World Business Report
11:15 Record News
11:30 Westway Access
11:45 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Omnibus
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Jazzmatazz
14:00 World News
14:05 World Business Report
14:15 Britain Today
14:30 Seven Days
14:45 Sports Roundup
15:00 Newshour
16:00 World News
16:05 Outlook
16:30 Planet 2000
17:00 World News
17:05 Sports Roundup
17:15 Westway Access
17:30 Electronic Jukebox
18:00 World News
18:15 Seven Days
18:30 Insight
18:45 Britain Today
19:00 Europe Today
19:30 World Business Report
19:45 Sports Roundup
20:00 Newsdesk
20:30 Brain of Britain 1998
21:00 News Summary
21:01 Outlook Extra
21:25 Pause for Thought
21:30 Multitrack: Hit List
22:00 Newshour
23:00 World News
23:05 World Business Report
23:15 Britain Today
23:30 Tying the Knot
00:00 Newsdesk

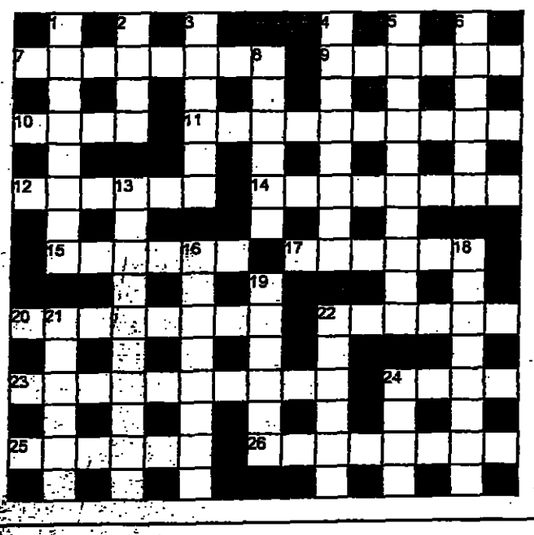
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

7 Offer pals poor exchange (8)
9 In winter miners need coats of fur (6)
10 Man given ring back unworn (4)
11 Engineers forced to be reasonable (10)
12 Seethe when about two thousand is returned (6)
14 Ugly things have a point certainly—or points (8)
15 An innovative device that may well be tagged (6)
17 The appearance of a page in school (6)
20 A reptile keeping quiet concealed in the ground (8)
22 Stirring up dirt is rotten (6)
23 A fighter can't accept being checked out (10)
24 Mere colouring matter (4)
25 Painter taking note Parisian Black is required (6)
26 Prolonged extra over (8)

DOWN

1 Father admitting looking grim (8)
2 The first of several parking in turn (4)
3 The businessman who takes too much interest (6)
4 A noble woman about fifty, quite incomparable (8)
5 Most powerful top men —into mergers (10)
6 Attachment for a girl over the water (6)
8 The French store getting censured (6)
13 Discretion in using fashion budget (10)
16 Appearance in public is all-important to a photographer (8)
18 Sturdy but stupid lot (8)
19 A green compound for making incense (6)
21 Summons the first lady's about to endorse (6)
22 A vegetable too apt to be wrongly treated (6)
24 Advance due to the demise of the Left? (4)



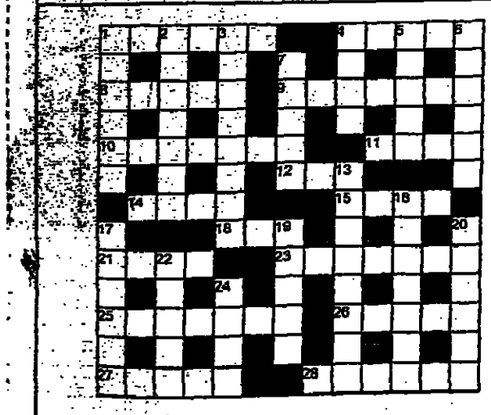
SOLUTIONS



SABLE TACTICIAN
NLP ALRO
OVATION TOEHOLD
WSCIOXNE
BATH AGENT PIPS
OECHIFN
UNDERSTANDING F
NAREEI
O INSTANTANEOUS
MHTADRR
SOPS ACRID EDGE
AABHLBIR
LUSTRUM STERNUM
OTJAAAA
PRONOUNCE DYLAN

Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Pasture, 5 Highs, 8 Theme, 9 Turmoil, 10 Overdrawn, 12 Nun, 13 Untidy, 14 Awhile, 17 Air, 18 Derring-do, 20 Anatomy, 21 Guile, 23 Ennui, 24 Needles. DOWN: 1 Patio, 2 Sue, 3 Upended, 4 Extras, 5 Heron, 6 Grounding, 7 Silence, 11 Entertain, 13 Unaware, 15 Wriggle, 16 Crayon, 18 Dhoti, 19 Omens, 22 Ill.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Provision merchant (6)
4 Ascend (5)
8 Thespian (5)
9 Bullfighter (7)
10 Feeling (7)
11 Smirk (4)
12 Set (3)
14 Difficulty (4)
15 Military force (4)
18 View (3)
21 Assists (4)
23 Even (7)
25 Cut (7)
26 Nimble (5)
27 Irish writer (5)
28 Flaw (6)

DOWN

1 Stared fiercely (6)
2 Obsolete (7)
3 Wages (8)
4 Silent (4)
5 Beneath (5)
6 Wearisome (6)
7 Amid (5)
13 Tongue (8)
16 Infirmity (7)
17 Polish capital (6)
19 Wear away (5)
20 Keen (6)
22 Demon (5)
24 French cheese (4)

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TV

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

ARABIC PROGRAMS
6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV
8:00 Miraculous Revival of Hebrew
8:30 Pique Nique
9:00 How to Draw Cartoons
9:30 Media Waves
10:00 Sesame Street
10:25 Abba Bonsh Stories
10:35 Fistuk's House
11:00 Science
13:05 Environmental Affairs
13:30 Hanni's Room

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Heartbreak Hotel
16:15 Eli and Lily
16:00 Garfield
16:30 Hoppa Hey
16:59 A Good Evening
17:35 Another Star
18:05 Dudu's Adventures
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
19:30 Sport
19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 World Soccer
19:53 Lighting of second Hanukka candle
20:00 News
20:07 *The Scold's Bride*
21:00 News
21:30 Politics
23:05 *Made in Israel*
23:30 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

■ CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's Programs
5:55 Song for the Day
6:00 Rainbow Children
6:43 Morning with Gabi Gazit and Rivka Michaeli
9:00 Rivka Michaeli
9:55 Kidnapped
10:45 Christmas in Cartoons
11:40 Happy Hanukka
12:30 Personalities in Judaism
13:00 Open Cards
13:30 Ghost Writer
14:00 Home and Away
14:30 Tick Tack
15:00 Dave's World
15:27 Roseanne
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Lighting of second Hanukka candle
17:00 Five with Gadi Sukenik
17:30 Hall of Menashe
18:00 To be announced
18:28 The Last Frontier
19:00 Walker, Texas Ranger
20:00 News
20:30 First in Entertainment
22:00 Everything's Political
23:20 NYPD Blue
00:00 News
00:05 NYPD Blue – contd.
00:22 Screen Test
1:09 Blind Justice (1986) – a man is accused of a rape he did not commit. With Tim Matheson
2:45 Arad Festival
3:46 Song for Today

■ JORDAN TV (31) (unconfirmed)

15:00 Holy Koran
15:10 Batman
15:30 The Devil from Australia
16:00 Neighbors
16:30 Numbers and Letters
17:00 Thalassa
18:00 Bugby Spirit
19:00 *Le Journal*
19:15 French Show
19:30 *News Headlines*
19:35 Full-Time Parents
20:00 World Net News
20:30 Big Sky
21:00 Current Affairs
21:15 Varied
21:30 Encounter – chat show
22:00 News in English
22:30 Miniseries

■ MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27) (unconfirmed)

7:00 Keeping Fit
7:30 700 Club
8:30 TV Shopping
15:00 Blake and Mortimer
15:30 Donkey Kong District
16:00 Buddy Buddy
16:30 The White Fang
17:00 700 Club
17:30 Arabic World News
18:00 American Football – New England vs Pittsburgh
21:00 Special – Taking a Look at the Family
21:30 Live English League Soccer – Leeds United vs Coventry City
23:30 Late Show with David Letterman
00:00 TV Shopping
2:00 700 Club
2:30 American Football – *classic moments*
3:00 Live Football – Detroit vs San Francisco

CABLE

■ ITV 3 (33)

16:00 Cartoons
16:30 Dictator
17:30 Arabic Panel
18:00 Life Goes On – Egyptian series
19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 Auto Classics
20:00 Cinema 3
21:00 News
21:30 Cinema (French, 1988) – first in a four-part series starring Alain Delon as an actor who makes a movie about his actress mother
23:01 Dat Pop B-39

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Really Wild Animals
15:50 Food for Thought
16:30 Sesame Street
17:00 Sweat 'the Bee
17:20 Molliere
17:45 Color Garden
18:00 Zombit
18:30 Guitar for Beginners
19:00 The Miraculous Revival of the Hebrew Language
19:25 Little Big Country
19:30 Vis-a-vis
20:00 New Evening
20:30 Woman's Angle
20:55 Little Big Country
21:00 State of Affairs: Defender of Children – documentary about a priest fighting to save children in the Philippines from prostitution
22:00 In the Heat of the Night
22:45 Gigi, Monica and Bianca

■ CHANNEL 3

7:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines (rpt)
7:30 Love Story with Yossi Siyas (rpt)
8:00 Celeste
9:00 One Life to Live (rpt)
9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt)
10:30 Days of Our Lives
11:15 Angels Don't Cry
12:00 Barnaby Jones
12:45 Dallas
13:30 Newsradio
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Days of Our Lives
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Angels Don't Cry
16:45 One Life to Live
17:30 Frasier
18:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Melrose Place
20:25 The Naked Truth
20:50 Just Shoot Me
21:10 Drew Carey Show
21:35 Arliss
22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10
22:30 Seinfeld (rpt)
23:00 Ricki Lake
23:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (rpt)
00:15 Larry Sanders Show
00:45 Silk Stallings
1:35 North of 60

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Out There (1995) – a young photographer develops an old piece of film and discovers conclusive evidence of alien activities on Earth. Will Bill Campbell
13:10 The Enchanted Cottage (1945) – adaptation of an Arthur Pinero play about two recluses: a disfigured pilot and a homely woman who meet in a remote cottage and find each other attractive. With Dorothy McGuire and Robert Young
14:50 The Successor (1996) – thriller about an Englishman in Russia who discovers that he is the heir to the Romanovs, and that both Royalists and Communists want to use him to find the lost gold of the czars. With Jason Connery
16:35 The Thing Called Love (1993) – a country-music singer-songwriter tries to make it in Nashville and meets some friends along the way. With River Phoenix, Samantha Mathis, Dermot Mulroney and Sandra Bullock
18:30 Chameleon (1995) – an undercover agent working on a case of drug smuggling from Eastern Europe becomes so deeply involved that he falls in love with one of the chief suspects and loses touch with reality. With Anthony LaPaglia, Kevin Pollak and Melora Hardin
20:20 My Girl 2 (1994) – sequel to the charming comedy about love and death. This time our girl is a budding teenager who travels to LA to try to find out about her mother. With Dan Aykroyd, Jamie Lee Curtis and Anna Chlumsky
22:00 The Perfect Mother (1997) – an obsessive mother is so jealous of her son's love for his wife that she will do anything to restore him. With Tyne Daly, Ione Skye, Justin Louis and Tuesday Knight
23:30 Teresa's Tattoo (1992) – comic thriller. Bumbling kidnappers accidentally kill their hostage and plot to replace her with a look-alike. With Lou Diamond Phillips and Jonathan Silverman
1:00 Kickboxer 5: The Redemption (1994) – a martial artist investigates the death of his best friends. With Mark Dacascos and James Ryan
2:30 Grid Runners (1994, 86 mins.) – a scientist brings three virtual reality characters to life, including a warrior who wants to unleash the rest of the bad guys from the virtual-reality underworld. With Don "The Dragon" Wilson and Michael Bernardo

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 Simba, Jungle King
8:35 The World's Most Beautiful Tales
8:45 Little Star
9:00 Franklin
9:35 The Smurfs
10:05 Ninja Turtles
10:30 Superman
11:10 Peter Pan and the Pirates
11:30 Ace Ventura, Pet Detective
12:00 Shesh-Tus
12:35 Diggar and Splat
13:05 Musty
13:35 Simba, Jungle King
14:05 Little Mouse on the Prairie
14:35 Urmal
15:05 The Smurfs
15:30 Hanukka on the Children's Channel
16:05 Ninja Turtles
16:25 Superman
16:45 Hanukka on the Children's Channel
17:10 Mowgli
17:30 Hanukka on the Children's Channel
18:05 Adventures of Robin Hood
19:00 Moesha
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:45 Full House
21:10 Party of Five

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Appointment With Danger (1951) – classic thriller about a murder investigation led by a nun and a postal inspector. The two get kidnapped when the villains realize they are being followed. With Alan Ladd, Phyllis Calvert, Jack Webb and Harry Morgan
23:30 Les Choses de la Vie (French, 1969, 82 mins.) – classic drama by Claude Sautet. A middle-aged businessman is injured in a car accident and is forced to reflect on his relations with his wife and his mistress. With Michel Piccoli, Romy Schneider and Lea Massari

■ CHANNEL 8

6:00 Open University (rpts from Sunday at 23:30)
8:00 World of Clones (rpt)
8:55 Satellite Wars (rpt)
9:35 Knights and Armor – the age of chivalry and the truth behind the legends
11:15 Cats
12:10 A Fork in the Road: France – reruns of the entertaining series about world food
12:35 Two Worlds: Two Wonderful Worlds
13:05 Travelogue: Vanuatu (rpt)
13:30 School of Thought (rpt)
14:20 My Travels with My Camera (rpt)
15:15 The Return of Sarah's Daughters
16:05 Cousteau: Indonesia I
17:00 Open University: Cracking the Code
17:55 Open University: Retail Site Selection
18:20 Open University: *The Brain*
19:00 Two Worlds, part 9 – life in the oceans
19:30 Metropolis, part 1 – documentary series on the history and problems of the modern big cities
20:05 Revenge
21:00 Royals and Reptiles – a look at changes in the status of Britain's royal family as a result of of its exposure to aggressive journalism
23:00 The Israel Test
23:30 Open University: The Unknown Fiddler of Santa Barbara
00:30 Open University: Story of the Great War

■ STAR WORLD (18/15)

6:00 Peak Practice
7:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
8:00 Santa Barbara
9:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
9:30 Cooking Secrets of the CIA
10:00 Snowy River, the McGregor Saga
11:00 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures
11:30 Small Wonder
12:00 The Brittas Empire
12:30 World News
13:00 Asia News & World Business Report
13:30 Home Improvement
14:00 Due South
15:00 It's a Man's World
15:30 Grace Under Fire
16:00 Chicago Hope
17:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
17:30 Home Improvement
18:00 Due South
19:00 It's a Man's World
19:30 Grace Under Fire
20:00 Chicago Hope
21:00 Home Improvement
21:30 Newhart
22:00 The Brittas Empire
22:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
23:00 The Wonder Years
23:30 Mr. Belvedere
00:00 Aerobics Oz Style
00:30 World News
1:00 Home Improvement
1:30 Candid Camera
2:00 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures
2:30 The Brittas Empire

■ BBC WORLD (13/14)

News on the hour
6:30 USA Direct (rpt)
7:30 Correspondent
8:30 Earth Report: The Natives (rpt)
9:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
10:30 Correspondent
11:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
12:30 Top Gear (rpt)
13:00 The World Today
14:30 Wild World
15:15 World Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 Future Fantastic: The Immortals (rpt)
17:30 Hard Talk
18:30 Style!
19:30 Earth Report (rpt)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
22:30 QED
23:10 World News and Business Report
23:30 Holiday
00:10 Europe Direct
1:30 World News and Business Report
1:45 Asia Today (rpt)
2:30 Earth Report (rpt)

■ CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)

6:30 Pinnacle Europe
7:05 CNN This Morning
7:30 Best of Insight (rpt)
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Managing with Jan Hopkins
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sport
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz this Weekend
11:00 Newsstand CNN & Time
12:30 World Sport
13:30 American Edition
13:45 World Report: As They See It
14:30 Pinnacle Europe
15:15 News & Business Asia
16:30 Insight
17:30 World Sport
18:30 The Artclub
19:00 Newsstand CNN & Time
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight
00:00 World Business
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline Newshour
2:30 Showbiz Today

■ SKY NEWS (14/13)

News on the hour
6:30 CBS Evening News
7:30 Special Report
8:00 Sunrise
13:30 Sky World News
16:30 Your Call
18:30 Sky World News
19:00 Live at Five
21:30 Sportsline
22:30 Sky Business Report
23:30 Sky World News
00:00 Prime Time
2:30 CBS Evening News

■ CHANNEL 5

6:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 Five in the Air (rpt)
18:00 International Journal
19:00 National League Soccer
19:30 Sports News
20:00 Live FILA Basketball
22:00 Spanish League Soccer
23:30 Rugby

■ EUROSPORT (15/16)

9:30 Swimming
11:00 Biathlon
12:30 Luge
13:30 Alpine Skiing
14:30 Athletics
15:30 Ski Jumping
17:00 Biathlon
18:30 Live Alpine Jumping
19:30 Ski Jumping
20:15 Xtrem Sports
21:15 Live Alpine Skiing
22:00 Car Racing
23:00 Boxing
00:00 Soccer – Eurogoals
1:30 Alpine Skiing

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	World Soccer Hannuka Lighting		Melrose Place		Family Matters Married with Children	Metropolis
20:00	News The Scold's Bride	News	The Naked Truth	My Girl	Fresh Prince of Bel Air Full House	Revenge
20:30		First in Entertainment	Just Shoot Me The Drew Carey Show Arliss		Party of Five	Royals and Reptiles
21:00	News		Yair Lapid Live at 10	The Perfect Mother	Appointment with Danger	
21:30	Politics	Everything's Political	Seinfeld			The Israel Test
22:00			Ricki Lake			
22:30						
23:00						

MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE Out of Sight 5 • Little Sister⇔Three Points of View 7 • The Real Blonde 9:30 G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • Sliding Doors⇔A Perfect Murder 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Big Lebowski 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Small Soldiers 4:45, 7:15, 10 **JERUSALEM THEATER** Washington Square 9:30 • Character (Dutch, Hebrew subtitles) 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot Studio 54⇔Life Is Beautiful⇔Next Stop Wonderland 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Ever After⇔Holy Man⇔There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Snake Eyes 5, 7:30, 9:45; **MEVASSERET ZION** G.G. GIL ☎ 5700868 The Truman Show 7:15, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 9:30 • Parent Trap 4:45 • Mulan (Hebrew dialogue) 4:45, 7:15 **SMADAR** ☎ 5618168 The Dream Life of Angels 5, 7:30, 10
TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF Sliding Doors 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 • Washington Square 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 • Character (Dutch, Hebrew subtitles) 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 **GAT** ☎8667888 Life Is Beautiful 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 **GLOBUS** ☎6081130/1 Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30 • The Negotiator 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Fri. 9:45, 12:30 a.m. • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • A Perfect Murder 10 • The Big Lebowski⇔The Gingerbread Man 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 6, 9:30 • The Borrowers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • Paulie 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 **G.G. HOD 1-4** ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. The Truman Show⇔The Big Lebowski 5, 7:30, 10 • A Perfect Murder 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 **LEV** ☎5288288 I Went Down 2:15, 10 • A Price Above Rubies 11:15 a.m., 2, 7:30 • Hana-Bi 11:15 a.m., 1:45, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Dream Life of Angels 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:45, 7:30, 9:45 • Sweet Hereafter 9:45 • Night Train 5, 7:30 • Superboy 11:30 a.m., 5 **LEV AVIV** ☎6417148 The Dream Life of Angels⇔Hana-Bi 5, 7:30, 10 • I Went Down 10 • A Polish Bride⇔A Price Above Rubies 5, 7:30 • Sweet Hereafter 10 • Nights of Cabiria 7:30, 10 • Superboy 5 **LIMOR** ☎6968084 Shall We Dance 5 • Armageddon 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 7 **G.G. PE'ER** ☎5442141 The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Palestine Circus 5, 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 **RAV-CHEN** ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle Studio 54 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Ever After 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Holy Man⇔Wrongfully Accused 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Snake Eyes⇔Halloween: H20 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 **RAV-OR 1-5** ☎ 5102574 Opera House Next Stop Wonderland⇔Tango 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Il Ciclone 5, 7:30, 9:45 • There's Something About Mary 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Henry Fool 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 **TEL AVIV MUSEUM** Claire Dolan 5, 8, 10
HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMANN ☎8325755 King of Masks 7:15, 9:15 • The Apple 7:15, 9:15 • A Perfect Murder 9:15 **CINEMATHEQUE** Castle of Purity 5 • Mulan 7 • Profundo Carmesi 9:30 • The Rocky Horror Picture Show 11 ☎8383424 **MORIAH** ☎8242477 Washington Square Fri. 10:15; Sat. 7:15, 9:30; Sun-Wed. 7:15, 9:30 **ORI** ☎8500056 Small Soldiers 4:45, 7:15 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ⇔The Truman Show 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Big Lebowski⇔Sliding Doors 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • PANORAMA ☎8382020 Small Soldiers 11 a.m., 4:30, 7 • The Negotiator⇔Character (Dutch, Hebrew subtitles) F4:30, 7:15, 9:30 • Sliding Doors 9:30 **RAV-CHEN** ☎8500055 Studio 54 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Holy Man⇔There's Something About Mary 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • Wrongfully Accused 5, 7:15, 9:30 • 6 Days 7 Nights 5, 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-GAT 1-2** ☎ 8674311 The X-Files 7, 9:30 • Snake Eyes 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-MOR 1-7** ☎ 8416898 Studio 54⇔Snake Eyes 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Ever After 4:30, 7, 9:30 Holy Man 4:30, 7, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30 • 6 Days 7 Nights 7:15, 9:30 • Wrongfully Accused 5 **RAV-OR 1-3** ☎ 8246553 Ever After 4:45, 7, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30 • Next Stop Wonderland 5, 7:15, 9:30
AFULA
RAV CHEN Holy Man 7, 9:15 • There's Something About Mary 7, 9:30 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:15
ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 Ever After⇔There's Something About Mary 7:30, 9:45 • Saving Private Ryan 9:15 • Wrongfully Accused 7:30
ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 Small Soldiers 5, 7:15 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show⇔Sliding Doors 5, 7:30, 10 • Perfect Murder 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 9:30 **ORI** ☎8568073 Out of Sight⇔The Gingerbread Man 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎8661120 Ever After⇔ Holy Man⇔There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Studio 54⇔Life Is Beautiful⇔Snake Eyes 5, 7:30, 9:45
ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 5, 7:15 • The Truman Show⇔Sliding Doors 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 9:30 • The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎6711221 Studio 54 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Ever After 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Holy Man 7:30, 9:45 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45
BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 Studio 54 Fri. 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Small Soldiers 5, 7:30 • Ever After⇔There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Negotiator 4:15, 7, 9:45 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Holy Man 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Snake Eyes 9:45
BEERSHEBA
G.G. ORI ☎6103111 The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 5, 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show 10 **RAV-NEGEV 1-4** ☎6235278 Ever After⇔Holy Man 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:4
EILAT
EILAT CINEMA Ever After⇔There's Something About Mary 7:30, 10 • Holy Man 7:30, 10 **GIL** ☎6340182 Small Soldiers 5, 7:30 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30
HADERA
LEV ☎6343655 Ever After 5, 7:30, 10 • Holy Man 5, 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10
HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 Next Stop Wonderland 6, 8, 10 • Life Is Beautiful 5:30, 7:30, 10 **DANIEL** ☎ 9544044 The Dream Life of Angels 7:30, 10 • Pippi Longstocking (Hebrew dialogue) 5 **STAR** ☎ 9589068 Studio 54 7:30, 10 • ANTZ⇔There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Wrongfully Accused 5 **HOD HASHARON**
GIL ☎ 7408591 Ever After 5, 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 7:30 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 10
HOLON
GLOBUS Small Soldiers 5 • Ever After⇔Holy Man⇔ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Life Is Beautiful 7:30, 10 **STAR** Ever After⇔There's Something About Mary 7:30, 10 • Snake Eyes 7:30, 10
KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 Holy Man⇔There's Something About Mary 7, 9:30 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:15
KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Studio 54 5, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 5, 7:30, 10 • Small Soldiers 5, 7:30 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • There's Something About Mary⇔ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Holy Man 5, 7:3., 10 • The Truman Show 10
KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL ☎8779877 Small Soldiers 7, 9:30 • The Truman Show 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 7, 9:30 • Wrongfully Accused 7, 9:30 • Saving Private Ryan 7, 9:30 • Sliding Doors 7, 9:30 • Snake Eyes 7, 9:30 • Best Man⇔The Negotiator 7, 9:30
KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎9905080 Ever After 4:30, 7, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Big Lebowski 4:30, 7, 9:30
NAHARIYA
G.G. GIL Ever After⇔ANTZ⇔Holy Man 5, 7:30, 10 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10
UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6561332 Ever After⇔ There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Truman Show 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Big Lebowski⇔Snake Eyes 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30 • The Negotiator 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Best Man⇔Washington Square 5, 7:30, 10
NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Small Soldiers 5, 7:15 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors⇔The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 9:30 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 8618570 Studio 54⇔Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Holy Man 5, 7:30, 9:45 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45
OR AKIVA
RAV CHEN ☎ 6262758 Holy Man 7:15, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 7, 9:30 • Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:30
OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 5333292 The Big Lebowski⇔The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Palestine Circus 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 6, 9:30
PETAH TIKVA
G.G. GIL 1-6 ☎ 9087989 Small Soldiers 5, 7:15 • Ever After⇔Holy Man⇔ANTZ 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Saving Private Ryan 9:30 **G.G. HECHAL** ☎ 9317374 Studio 54⇔There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 5, 7:30, 10
RA'ANANA
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IOC fights back
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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Giants snap Broncos' streak at 13

EAST RUTHERFORD (AP) — Rest easy, Miami Dolphins of 1972. The Denver Broncos are no longer perfect.

And the officials even seemed to get the game-winning call right.

The Broncos' dreams of becoming the first NFL team since those Dolphins to go undefeated ended yesterday when Kent Graham threw a 37-yard touchdown pass to Amani Toomer with 48 seconds left to give the New York Giants a 20-16 victory.

The game-winning catch came in the back of the end zone with Toomer outleaping Tito Paul. For a second, the officials looked at each other, discussed whether Toomer's feet were inbounds and then back judge Kirk Dornan signaled touchdown.

Replays showed the call was correct, unlike a week ago when the officials blew a last-minute call to give the New York Jets a win over the Seattle Seahawks in a game also at Giants Stadium.

Until the late heroics, the Broncos (13-1) seemed headed for their 14th straight win and an NFL-record 19th straight over two seasons, thanks to yet another John Elway-led comeback.

He engineered a 76-yard drive in seven play with Terrell Davis (28 for 147 yards), putting the Broncos ahead 16-13 with a 27-yard run with 4:08 to play.

The Giants (6-8) lost one chance to tie the game when Gary Brown (18-112) fumbled at the Denver 29 with 3:38 to go.

New York's defense, which was outstanding in keeping Elway (19 of 36 for 180) under pressure the entire game, forced a Denver punt. Toomer mishandled it and New York was forced to start at its own 14.

But six plays and 86 yards later, Toomer made amends in the back of the end zone.

Elway had just 48 seconds to move the Broncos 58 yards for a go-ahead touchdown.

He got Denver to the New York 30, but his final-play desperation pass was tipped in the end zone and fell to the turf. The Giants immediately began celebrating a victory that not only made their season but kept alive their slim playoff hopes.

Rams 32, Patriots 18

Rookie Az Hakim and June Henley each scored two touchdowns and host St. Louis overcame three first-half turnovers and the loss of starting quarterback Tony Banks.

The Patriots (8-6) wasted a big game from rookie running back Robert Edwards, who gained 196 yards on 24 carries, and hurt their playoff chances by losing for the first time in four games.

Quarterback Drew Bledsoe threw a touchdown pass to Lovett Purnell, but was sacked five times and knocked down repeatedly under heavy blitzing.

Redskins 28, Panthers

Visiting Washington keeps showing signs that their 0-7 start wasn't indicative of their abilities.

The Carolina Panthers wish they could say the same thing.

Rookie Skip Hicks rushed for 55 yards and two touchdowns and the Redskins extended their late-season surge with a 28-25 victory over the self-destructive Panthers.

Hicks helped the Redskins to a 160 yards on the ground.

In other action, it was Falcons 27, Saints 17; Ravens 14, Vikings 12; Bills 44, Raiders 21 and Packers 26, Bears 20.



LET 'ER RIP – Giants QB Kent Graham (1) celebrates in the end zone with receiver Tiki Barber who had just caught a 21-yard TD pass in second-quarter action. (Reuters)

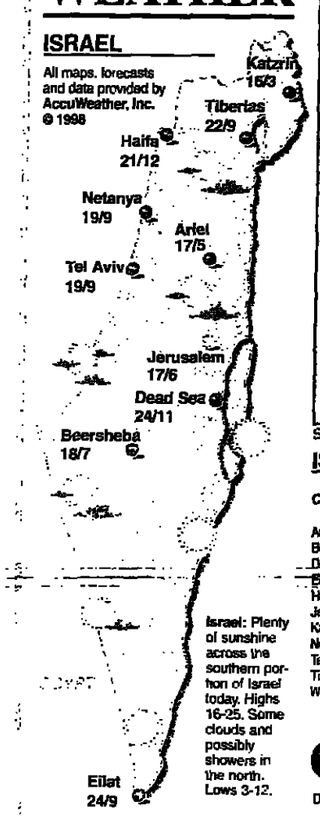
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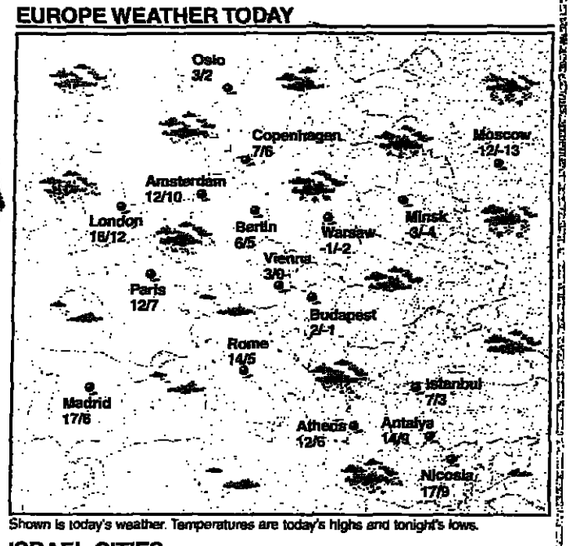
ISRAEL

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Israel: Plenty of sunshine across the southern portion of Israel today. Highs 16-25. Some clouds and possibly showers in the north. Lows 3-12.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High	Today Low/W	Tuesday High	Tuesday Low/W	Wednesday High	Wednesday Low/W	Thursday High	Thursday Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Ariel	17/62	5/41/s	14/57	3/37/pc	12/53	0/32/pc	13/55	2/35/pc
Beersheba	18/64	7/44/pc	17/62	6/43/s	14/57	3/37/pc	15/59	5/41/pc
Dead Sea	24/75	11/52/s	22/71	9/48/pc	19/66	7/44/pc	19/66	8/46/pc
Eilat	24/75	9/48/s	22/71	9/48/s	19/66	5/41/pc	19/66	8/46/pc
Haifa	21/70	12/53/s	17/62	10/50/sh	16/61	7/44/pc	18/64	9/48/pc
Jerusalem	17/62	6/43/pc	13/55	4/39/pc	10/50	1/34/pc	11/52	3/37/pc
Katzrin	16/61	3/37/s	11/52	1/34/sh	11/52	-2/29/pc	12/53	-1/31/pc
Netanya	19/66	9/48/pc	17/62	7/44/sh	14/57	4/39/pc	16/61	7/44/pc
Tel Aviv	19/66	9/48/pc	17/62	7/44/pc	14/57	4/39/pc	16/61	7/44/pc
Tiberias	22/71	9/48/s	17/62	6/43/sh	16/61	3/37/pc	18/64	4/39/pc

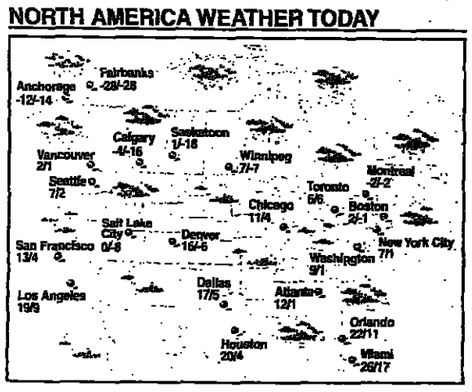
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-ice.

New	First	Full	Last
Dec 19	Dec 26	Jan 2	Jan 9

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today High	Today Low/W	Tuesday High	Tuesday Low/W	Wednesday High	Wednesday Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Amsterdam	12/53	10/50/sh	11/52	6/43/r	12/53	11/52/s
Beijing	4/39	-3/27/s	7/44	-2/29/pc	11/52	4/39/s
Berlin	6/43	5/41/sh	11/52	7/44/sh	8/46	6/43/s
Brussels	12/53	11/52/sh	13/55	7/44/c	12/53	11/52/s
Cairo	19/66	8/46/pc	18/64	7/44/s	14/57	6/43/pc
Chicago	11/52	4/39/pc	13/55	2/35/pc	7/44	-1/31/sh
Frankfurt	4/39	4/39/c	9/48	7/44/sh	7/44	6/43/s
Hong Kong	19/66	15/59/r	18/64	17/62/sh	22/71	18/64/c
Johannesburg	28/82	18/64/pc	28/79	17/62/sh	25/84	17/62/pc
London	16/61	12/53/pc	13/55	7/44/r	14/57	11/52/s
Los Angeles	19/66	9/48/s	26/79	8/46/s	26/79	9/48/s
Madrid	17/62	6/43/s	17/62	6/43/s	16/61	8/46/pc
Mexico City	19/66	4/39/pc	18/64	8/43/s	20/68	6/43/pc
Montreal	-2/29	-2/29/pc	10/50	1/34/s	4/39	-8/18/c
Moscow	-12/11	-13/9/pc	-7/20	-8/18/c	-1/31	-7/20/pc
New York	7/44	1/34/s	12/53	7/44/s	17/62	4/39/s
Paris	12/53	7/44/pc	12/53	6/43/pc	11/52	8/46/s
Prague	3/37	2/35/c	8/46	6/43/r	6/43	4/39/s
Rio de Janeiro	29/84	23/73/pc	30/86	23/73/pc	29/84	23/73/pc
Rome	14/57	5/41/pc	14/57	7/44/pc	20/68	11/52/pc
Sydney	26/82	23/73/t	27/80	22/71/t	26/79	19/66/pc
Tokyo	15/59	13/55/s	16/61	9/48/pc	15/59	11/52/s
Toronto	6/43	6/43/pc	14/57	6/43/s	7/44	-3/27/pc
Vienna	3/37	0/32/pc	6/43	6/43/sn	8/46	5/41/s
Warsaw	-1/31	-2/29/sn	4/39	3/37/c	4/39	1/34/pc
Washington	9/48	1/34/s	12/53	4/39/s	13/55	3/37/s
Zurich	5/41	4/39/sn	9/48	7/44/c	9/48	8/46/s

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



Maccabi tumbles from the top

Jerusalem heads table in local hoops action

By ELI GRONER

In a win that was especially sweet for coach David Blatt, Galil Elyon shocked Maccabi Tel Aviv with a stunning 97-91 win last night in Kfar Blum.

"After so many years of losing close games at home to Maccabi, it's especially gratifying to beat them," said Blatt.

Meanwhile, Hapoel Jerusalem staved off a feisty Bnei Herzliya club, 72-70, to take over first place in the National Basketball League.

Galil Elyon 97
Mac. Tel Aviv 91

Six of the most storied figures in Galil Elyon history made the trip up north as members of Maccabi Tel Aviv, only to lose to a .500-squad that, until last night, sorely missed its ex-stars. But Maccabi coach Pini Gershon – who coached current assistant coach Brad Leaf and point guard Doron Sheffer to Galil's championship season in 1993 – was outmaneuvered by Blatt, whose outstanding foreigners outplayed their high-profile counterparts.

Theo Cimizic (29 points, 6-of-6 from 3), Jaimie Arnold (28) and Herman Alston (20) combined for 77 points – including 43 in the second half when the northerners overcame a 10-point deficit – to spark the upset.

Maccabi actually led with just over three minutes remaining, when Derrick Sharp followed a Cimiciz three-pointer with a rare, four-point play to make the score 84-83. But Arnold responded with back-to-back three-point plays, giving Galil an 89-84 cushion. Another former northerner, Gur Shelef, responded with a quick field goal, but Blatt's club buried 5-of-6 free throws to close out the contest.

Nadav Henefeld – yet another former Galil Elyon standout – tallied 17 points for Maccabi.

Hapoel Jerusalem 72
Bnei Herzliya 70

In one of the most riveting yet ugly games in recent memory, Tal Borstein – a 93 percent shooter from the charity stripe – missed the biggest free-throw attempt of his young career, enabling Hapoel to escape Herzliya in first place.

After missing his first attempt with four seconds to play, Borstein bricked the second attempt intentionally, and Herzliya forward Mark Dean managed to come up with the rebound. But Dean wasn't able to get off a shot in the final seconds, as Jerusalem slipped through the back door into first place.

Five seconds earlier, Hapoel had given the Herzliyans a gift-wrapped opportunity to win the game, when Derrick Hamilton went to sleep on an inbounds pass, giving the Herzliyans possession of the ball after a successful Terrence Rancher free throw.

Radisav Curcic continued his strong play of late for Jerusalem, tallying 27 points and 12 rebounds in the win. Hamilton added 16 points.

Rancher – the league's leading scorer – paced Herzliya with 22.

Hapoel Holon 88
Hapoel Eilat 82

After blowing a 15-point lead with eight minutes remaining, Holon recovered to eke out the impressive road victory.

Ryan Lexer and Greg Sutton paced Holon with 24 and 20 points, respectively.

Other games last night: Hapoel Tel Aviv 73, Givat Shmuel 71; Maccabi Ra'anana 102, Rishon 95; Ramat Gan 91, Maccabi Haifa 83.

National Basketball League

Hapoel Jerusalem	8	1	17
Hapoel Holon	7	3	17
Maccabi Tel Aviv	7	2	16
Maccabi Ra'anana	6	4	16
Maccabi Ramat Gan	5	5	15
Galil Elyon	5	4	14
Hapoel Eilat	4	6	14
Bnei Herzliya	4	6	14
Rishon Lezion	4	6	14
Maccabi Haifa	3	7	13
Givat Shmuel	3	7	13
Hapoel Tel Aviv	2	7	11

DiMaggio: No more updates

HOLLYWOOD. (AP) – Joe DiMaggio must be feeling better. He told his doctors to shut up.

Two days after awakening from a coma, an irate DiMaggio ordered them yesterday to stop giving public updates on his recovery from lung cancer surgery and pneumonia.

Doctors had said Friday that the 84-year-old baseball great was very close to death. Now, he's talking and trying to recapture the privacy he has always cherished.

"We allowed Joe to talk this morning and he was very angry," said Dr. Earl Barron, who heads the six-person team treating the Hall of Famer. "He said, 'No more press.'"

Barron said he could no longer comment on DiMaggio's health. He refused to say whether his condition had been upgraded from critical to serious, as had been expected.

DiMaggio has guarded his privacy since his retirement from baseball in 1951, and information about his condition has been tightly controlled since he checked into Memorial Regional Hospital on October 12.

He had surgery two days later to remove a cancerous tumor in his right lung.

In a nationally televised news conference Friday, Barron reported that the former New York Yankees outfielder was in a "very dire situation" as he slipped in and out of a coma. But on Saturday, DiMaggio was sitting up in bed visiting with friends and family and even said, "Hello."

DiMaggio's condition improved after doctors started giving him antibiotics intravenously instead of orally. Doctors discovered the oral medication was not being absorbed into his bloodstream.

DiMaggio's family – including his brother, Dom; grandchildren Kathy and Paula; and longtime friend and lawyer Morris Engelberg – have been at his bedside.

Last weekend, the family was summoned when DiMaggio had what Barron called "a significant and serious turn for the worse."

Again, he improved overnight, leaving doctors stunned by his resiliency.

At least twice, he has had last rites of the Roman Catholic church administered when it seemed he was slipping away.

Bayern Munich regains Bundesliga lead

MUNICH (AP) – Michael Tarnat and Giovane Elber scored first half-time goals as Bayern Munich regained first place in the Bundesliga by beating closest rival Bayern Leverkusen 2-0 yesterday.

With one round left before the winter break, Bayern opened a three-point lead over Leverkusen. But Bayern has a game in hand.

Leverkusen suffered its first defeat on the road and only the second loss of the season and had its 14-game unbeaten streak snapped by a powerful performance from the Champions League quarterfinalist.

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